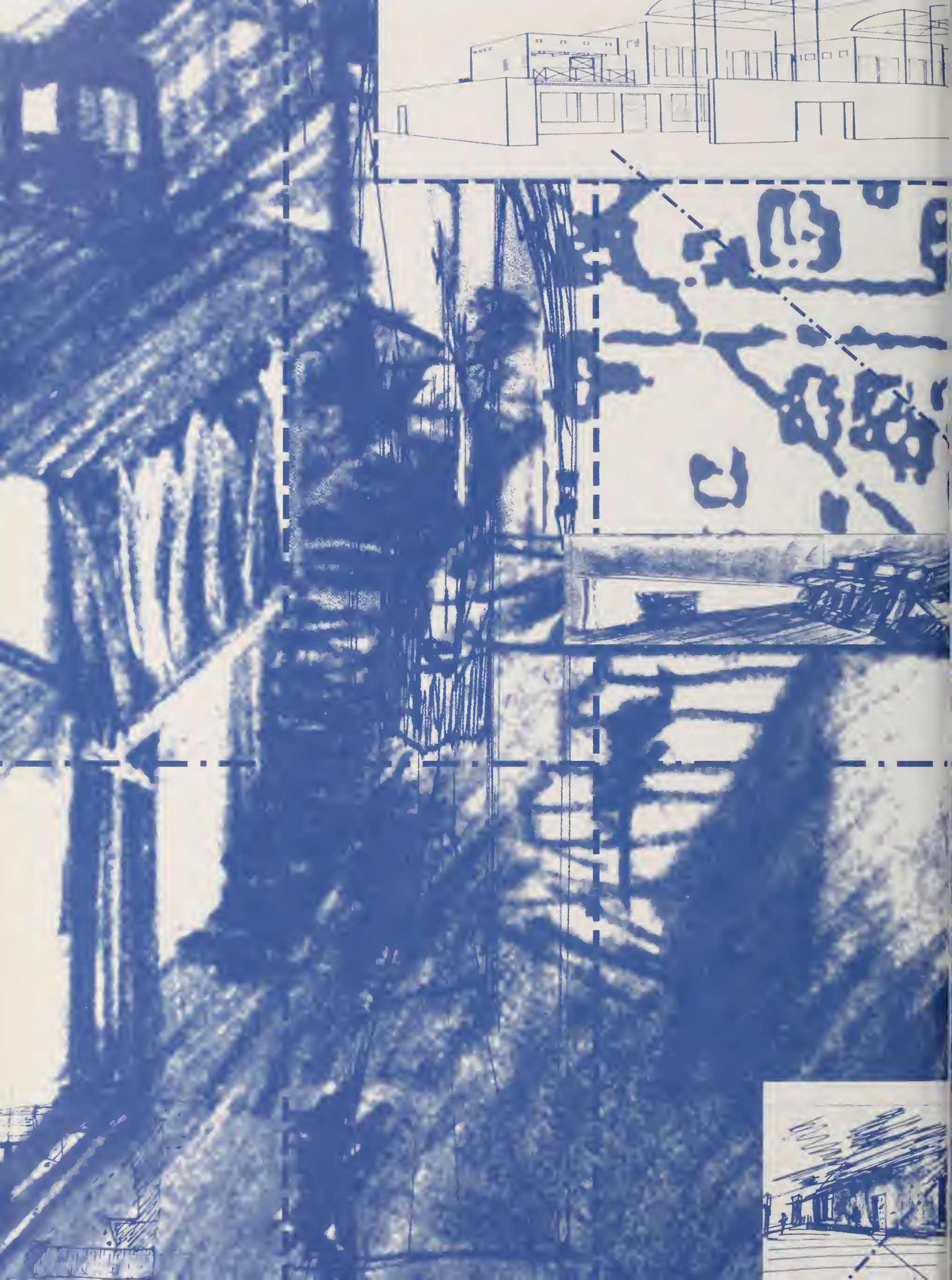


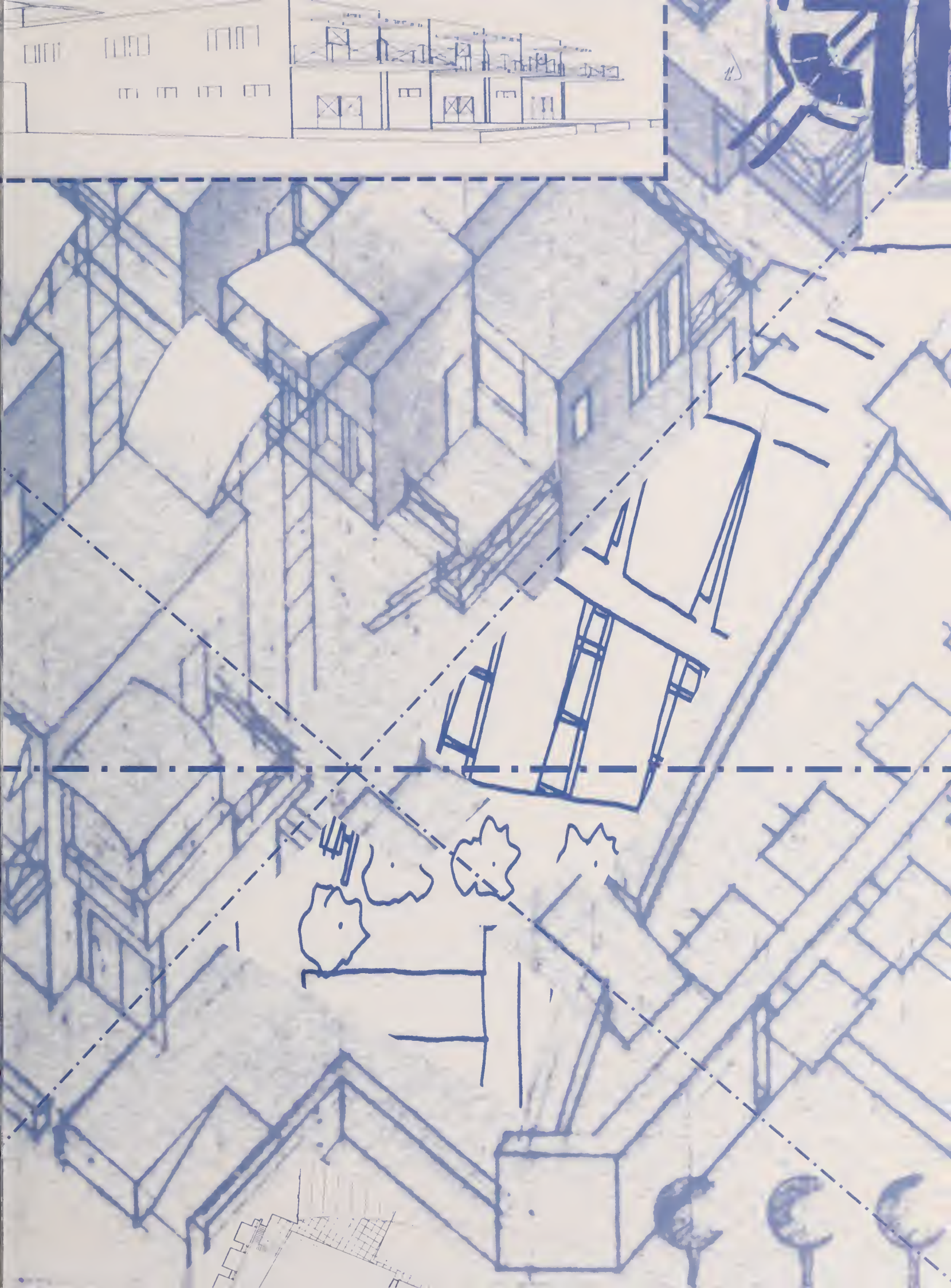


UNIVERSITY  
OF  
SOUTHWESTERN  
LOUISIANA













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# QUANTUM MORPHOSIS



# 1997

UNIVERSITY OF  
SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA

LAFAYETTE, LA 70504

VOLUME 79

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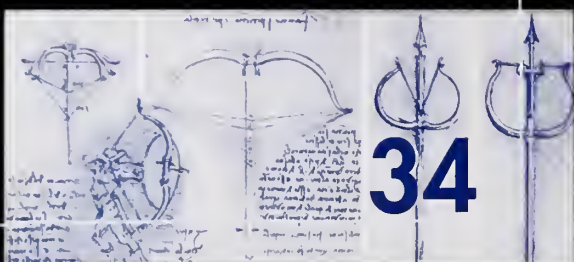


STUDENT LIFE



10

SPORTS



34

ENTERTAINMENT



82

GROUPS



114





# CONTENTS



GREEKS

146



PERSONALITIES

186



ACADEMICS

360



One of the primary purposes of a university yearbook is to be self-reflexive—to record noteworthy events, people, and places at the university throughout the calendar year.

As the twentieth century nears completion and the millennium approaches, that role expands from an effort to preserve a single year to an effort to record an entire century.



This century  
—the 1900s—  
is USL's century.  
As an organism that  
grows and develops each  
year—sometimes  
progressing in  
easily-visible spurts,  
sometimes in  
unnoticeable, minute  
evolutions—the university  
was conceived at the  
end of the 19th century  
and opened its doors  
in 1900.



Although USL  
(known as SLII—Southwest  
Louisiana Industrial  
Institute in the early 1900s)  
started out as not much  
more than a high school  
with about 100 students  
and eight faculty  
members, it has  
blossomed into an entity  
that has grown  
significantly in a relatively  
short period of time.  
Almost 100 years have  
passed in what may  
seem like the blink of  
an eye.

# PHOSPHORUS MORPHOSIS



In that segment of history  
and time, thousands of  
people have graduated  
from USL and gone on to  
improve their lives and  
the lives of others.

While attending this  
school, these thousands  
helped the university  
push itself toward success  
in many areas and many  
levels, including  
academics, research, ath-  
letics, Greek  
organizations, and  
student life.





In the spirit of  
all of the evolutions, revolutions  
and transformations that occur  
at the university,  
we present the 1997 L'Acadien—

## METAMORPHOSIS.

The name was “borrowed” from  
a 1915 book by Franz Kafka,  
entitled *The Metamorphosis*.

Rather than producing  
a yearbook that was inclusive  
of scenes or moments from USL  
in each year of this century  
—a rather large and daunting undertaking—  
this year's L'Acadien staff decided  
to develop a text  
that captured the growth,  
progress, and sense of time  
that are connected  
to life at the university.



In Kafka's book, the main character,  
Gregor, wakes one morning to find that he  
has turned into a large beetle, a frightening  
transformation not unlike waking to discover that  
you have three tests scheduled for that day and  
you forgot to study. Kafka's text may not seem  
relevant to a university yearbook, but many of the  
ideas explored in the book are central to student  
today, and to the twentieth century as a  
whole. Personal and collective insecurity,  
vulnerability, and being at the mercy of unknown  
forces are aspects that *The Metamorphosis* details.





As the year 2000 approaches, many people are apprehensive about what life will be like in the next century after the threshold of 1999 has been passed through. Other people welcome the uncertainty that such a watershed event brings, knowing that not everyone gets to see the onset of a new century.

These feelings of indeterminacy were prevalent in the early part of this century—when USL was in its infancy, a time of vast scientific, technological, and social developments. And these feelings are present today as we are less than a half a decade away from a leap into the next century—a jump into the unknown.



Likewise, some college students are often overcome with the multitude of evolutions and revolutions of college life and the apprehension of what comes after college, after one has passed through the threshold of graduation.







Other students enjoy  
the collision of worlds or time  
that college brings—  
the breaking point of chang-  
ing from college student  
to business or  
career professional.



As college students,  
we are here  
to better ourselves—  
to evolve, to develop,  
to transform ourselves—  
our minds, bodies,  
and characters,  
all while trying not to  
become static, fixed, and  
absorbed into the larger entity  
from which we develop.



The L'Acadien staff  
reminds students that  
the cocoon of college  
is but one process that  
each person goes through.  
Here's hoping  
that we all break from our  
encasements as butterflies  
and not beetles.



Handwritten text in a cursive script, likely a manuscript. The text is arranged in several columns, with some lines being more prominent than others. The script is dense and difficult to decipher, but appears to be a form of early modern handwriting.





# STUDENT LIFE



## FROM CATERPILLAR TO BUTTERFLY:

Students epitomize the metamorphosis that occurs during college. They are—or at least they should be—the reason non-students have an association with USL. Students enter college “green” and in four or five or six years (or more) they undergo many physical, emotional, and mental evolutions. They push the university to challenge itself, to grow wings and fly. In turn, the university works to help energetic, young “organisms”, in time, reach their highest flight. 🦋





# BIG Brother/ BIG Sister

Big Brothers and Big Sisters is a selfless program which allows students to enrich their lives by positive influence in the lives of community kids and teenagers. Student Big Brothers and Sisters act as role models and get as much out of the sharing experience as the children in the program.





# Top 10 Things Really

1 THE STANDARD SPECIALS.

2 Really Cheap Ramen Soup

3 HOW TO DROP OUT

WHEN YOU SELL BACK YOUR TEXT-BOOKS YOU ARE STILL BROKE

4 "HELP!"

5 Greed

6 Studying

7 DIPLOMA

8 mus.

9 TIPS

10 TELEPHONE TO FINANCIAL AID

McDonald's Takes Checks



# KRVS



## LOSES STUDENT FUNDING

In 1997, KRVS, the USL radio station underwent a traumatic transformation, at least financially. On November 25, after a 30-minute debate, the Student Government Association withdrew student funding of the station.

The SGA concluded that the station did not serve the students' interests adequately. One concern was that only about 28 percent of the student body that was polled, listened to the radio station. Many students had not even heard of KRVS or knew that USL has a radio station.

Previously, a referendum each year collected 50 cents from students through assessed fees to fund the radio station. This money helped to keep the station running, and to meet its payroll. Due to the withdrawal of student money, the station had its budget trimmed by about \$16,000. KRVS general manager Dave Spizale said he was not sure how the station would recoup the eliminated funding.

Another referendum that would essentially allow students to buy out KRVS was put before the board. However, SGA President Ted Daigle said "The referendum would not be approved by the state legislature in time to put it on the spring (1997) ballot."

If approved, the referendum would give students control of the radio station's programming and management through an assessment of \$10 per fall and spring semester and \$5 in the summer semester.

"There are some other steps before it gets on the ballot," Daigle said. "This is my own personal estimation, but, I don't think it will make it as far as the student ballot."


The referendum must go before the state legislature which only meets on fiscal matters once every two years, so this referendum could not go before the legislature until 1998, at the earliest.

General studies senator and chairman on the KRVS special committee, Brian West, issued an official recommendation which was responsible for issuing the survey that estimated how many students listened to the station. "KRVS is not, will not, and cannot be a student station," West said. Because of this, the committee recommended that the referendum not be put on the spring 1997 ballot for the election. The referendum was not placed on the ballot by a 16-4 vote.

Dave Slusher, USL student and KRVS producer, made yet another attempt to keep KRVS's student funding. Slusher asserted that the SGA withdrew the student funding for the station without putting the issue to a student vote. In order to get the referendum back on the ballot, Slusher was required 1,760 signatures on a petition. Slusher obtained 1,763 signatures. When asked how he felt about the KRVS situation, Slusher said, "We just want to know if the students want us."

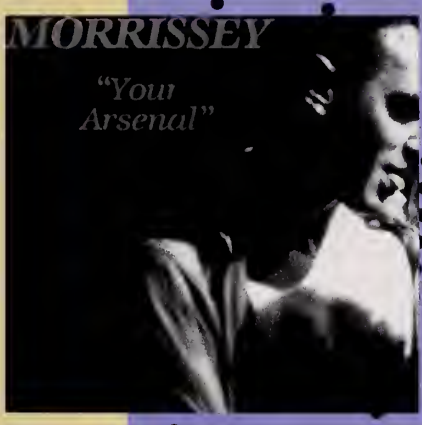
The KRVS referendum, which called to reinstate the 50 cents that students assess themselves each fall and spring semester, failed by a 627-1055 student vote. The Student Government Association then, perhaps permanently, withdrew its funding of the station.

"We'll just have to derive that revenue from somewhere else," Spizale said. Furthermore, as a result of reduced funding, Spizale said he could not promise that the station's seven part-time employees would keep their jobs. He maintained that the station "will try everything in its power to prevent that from happening."

Even the KRVS referendum failed, most officials were content with the idea that the students were able to cast the deciding vote with respect to the station's funding. 



# Campus Favorites . . .







# CBS Tour







# Outdoor Activities





# PARTIES


Whether it is a backyard barbecue with friends or a night on the town, the students of USL always find something to do when not in class or at work.

"USL offers a great location, be it for parties on the strip or gatherings with fraternities and sororities," commented Laurie Derise. It is a unique location, so that students can go out to their choice of bars or hang-outs without even getting in their car.

"We have what we call girls night out, and guys night out. This is when the squad gets together and either throws a party or gatherings to a party," said Jessica Arabie, head of the USL cheerleaders.

The University of Southwestern Louisiana is also located next to a section of locally owned and operated bars. This street is called "The Strip." It offers a place for students to gather, no matter what their style or age. There is a little something for everyone.

"Parties enable us as AKA sisters, to stay close on and off campus," commented Danielle Frye, an Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority sister.

No matter who you are or what you do, a party is always a time to just let loose and enjoy yourself. 






For years, USL students have frequented a three block arena that consists of eight bars, which is known as The Strip. There has been controversy after controversy concerning the drinking age, crimes, and events that occur in and around The Strip.

This year alone, The Strip has been the site of two murders and countless misdemeanors all associated with or happening due to the result of drinking. One of the murders happened on Mardi Gras day outside of Mako's. The victim, Brian Benoit, was shot once in the chest after a brief encounter with two men who were fighting. Benoit was said to have been breaking up a fight when an accidental blow hit Floyd Flugence. Flugence walked to his car after the altercation, retrieved a gun, returned to the scene, and shot Benoit. Events like these are rare, but nonetheless one, is one too many.

Recently, there has been a crack down on under age drinking, fighting, and loitering. Bar owners have taken it upon themselves to hire extra security to insure that their patrons are safe from the handful of trouble makers that make there way out to The Strip every night. The Strips popularity no doubt has to do with its proximity to USL. Many Students who live in the dorms or around USL are able to walk to The Strip instead of having to drive.

The Strip is not and has not always been known for the criminal activity that occurs there. College students enjoy being able to listen to some of their favorite music while drinking extremely cheap drinks. The recent murders have brought about several changes to The Strip's drinking activities. A person no longer is allowed to walk into or out of a bar with a drink and police are now stationed at each corner of the three-block area. Many bars have enlisted a zero-tolerance policy for fighting, which simply means you fight, you don't come back. Patrons of The Strip's bars don't seem to be worried about the criminal activity. The bars continually remain busy weekend after weekend, even after a murder has taken place there.

Most people return because they are out at The Strip to have fun, not injure or harm anyone. The Strip is a place for college students to have fun and forget about school for a while and not worry if they are going to get shot if they bump into the wrong person. 



# *Transit Authorities*

---

If you are one of the estimated 2,000 students that ride the bus everyday to school, then the following scenario should not be all that new to you: You get in your car, rush through traffic and pull into Cajun Field where you endlessly search for a decent parking spot. Then, after parking what seems like 40 miles away, you walk to the bus stop and wait in a line that is 1 mile long just to be rounded up and put on a bus like cows in a cattle trailer. After finding a place to sit, or, more likely, a place to stand, you wait another 5-10 minutes before the bus leaves to allow those later people to scurry onto the bus. Another 6-8 minutes on the road, depending on the traffic, and you finally reach the bus stop on campus. When your classes are through, you return back to the bus stop, climb on board, and you are returned right back to the place that you originally started from.

This daily routine, for some, has left people with an image of the USL Transit System as being lifeless and lethargic. But what about those who drive the buses? What are they like and how do they feel about their jobs? For those of you who have ever wanted to know, the answers to all of your questions about the individuals behind the wheels of the buses are about to be answered.

Obviously, there are drivers who are students, such as John English, a 25-year-old civil engineering major from Patterson, and then there are those who are not students and work for Civil Service, like Richela Moody, from Abbeville. Both of these individuals have one thing in common—they drive the students to and from school. Yet, their attitudes, experiences, and lives differ in several ways.

When asked how they became bus drivers for the university, both answered "Through word of mouth." John heard it from the old head bus driver and decided to give it a try. "I figured that I could do it and it was experience. It was something to learn and something new." Richela already had her license to drive a bus because her father was a school bus driver. She says, "I'm in Civil Service...I drive the bus and they (the university) hired me through that so that I can work 40 hours a week." The hours that they work each day depend on the individual. Since Richela is not a student, she drives the bus from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. John's hours, since he is a student, vary per semester.



your job?" appear to have conflicting answers from John and Richela. To answer the first question, John replied, "Sometimes, but most of the time, no, because we have to deal with all the drivers in Lafayette. On top of that, the students aren't receptive sometimes. When they are waiting in long lines, they take it out on the driver, not directly or verbally, but we can hear them." Richela has a different answer. She finds her job easy. "Probably the worst thing about it is having to deal with the traffic."

John's reply to the second question "Is your job rewarding was simply, "I don't know. It's hard to say." Richela, on the other hand, said, "Yes. I have a lot of people that tell me 'Thank you' and that helps."

The question, "Do you enjoy your job?" was answered "Yes" by both but John went on to say, "It's better than most jobs because you get to work around your classes; something that you can't do with other jobs."

Both Richela and John had a similar worst experience while driving the bus- hitting a vehicle. Richela said that she was coming down Rex Street on a very rainy day and hit a car. John said that a Coca-Cola truck was parked by Follett's and he took off one of the truck's side mirrors. John was not charged for the accident.

John and Richela are not restricted to only driving the buses to and from school. The USL Transit System has been asked to do a number of other services, such as bringing the football team to and from games. John says that his most memorable experience was driving the media around during the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. "They (the media) found out that USL had a transit system and they contacted us and asked us to do it." Richela also drives for special events, like a program that brings the elderly to different places and events.

Riding the bus to and from school can be a pain, as many students know.



The key point to remember is that the buses are not self driven- there are people behind the wheel, making it their business to get students back and forth from school each and every day. Whether it be the sweltering Louisiana heat, the cold October rain, or the unrelenting storms that frequently pass through this area, there will be people like John and Richela who will be waiting to bring students to their destinations.



# winter wonderland

Students are expected to attend classes in rain, hail, wind, and ice. WAIT! Ice in Louisiana? Normally you would not expect to see ice covering the sidewalks at USL, but last January, not only was campus frozen over, so was all of Lafayette and much of the state.

Although USL was in the midst of its last few days of Christmas vacation, the unexpected winter storm was creating chaos on campus. Questions were being raised among students and the housing staff on whether the weather would keep residents from moving back into the dorms in time for classes. Everyone feared that—because much of I-10 was closed due to ice on the roads—students would be unable to return to campus on the scheduled dates.

Not only was there havoc on campus, but the ice storm was creating chaos around town. Since icy weather is uncommon in this part of the state, life comes to a screeching halt when the unexpected happens. Roads were dangerous to travel on and many were closed. Many businesses were closed due to the fact that employees could not make it into work. Residents were advised to stay home if at all possible. But home was not a pleasant place to be for much of the community. Power lines were frozen and electricity was out over most of the town and in surrounding areas.

Even though the freeze was creating a stand still in general, it was also making a wonderland in nature. People could not help but notice how amazing ice made everything look. Blades of grass were covered in a sheet of ice and pine needles were enclosed in individual icicle. Daggers of ice could also be seen dangling from rooftops, street signs, and just about anything else.

After a few days and long cold nights, the sun came out and everything started to melt away. Grass thawed and roads became safe to travel on again. The winter wonderland was gone, and students knew that classes would be beginning soon. They were glad to see the ice go, yet, many wished that it had snowed before the ice storm ended. ❄️







# A Pilgrimage to Poverty Point

There's no easy way to get to Poverty Point. My journey began at the corner parking lot of Madison and Doucet where our group met to brave the trip together. We considered ourselves lucky to be joining a group of PP seasoned veterans. Surely they would take us there swiftly and safely. After numerous stops for gas, trips to the bathroom, and a stop at Dairy Queen for a Blizzard, we managed to make it to our destination in 5 hours. Driving to the end of the Earth? Nope. Never even left Louisiana.

Poverty Point is a Neo-Indian earthen construction in the eastern, uppermost corner of the state of Louisiana. Dr. Jon Gibson, anthropologist and professor at USL, has been visiting the site since he was 6 years old. He invites his students to spend a weekend in the state-funded dorms to visit the area and get some first-hand lecturing about its past. All were required to bring sleeping gear and food. The beer was lagniappe.

After moving onto our bunks, our Saturday afternoon was open for us to do whatever we liked, with one hitch. A guest speaker gave a short lecture about his work in Louisiana. It wasn't so bad, even for a non-anthropology major like myself.

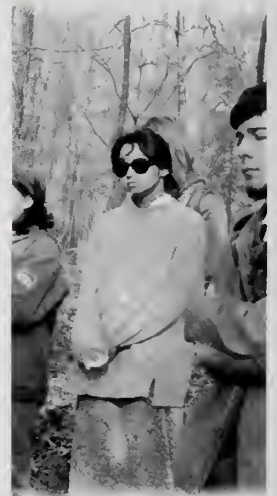
That night, we were treated to Doc Gibson's world famous Harlan Burgers. Not being a big fan of red meat, I was a little afraid. Maybe it was the atmosphere, maybe it was the booze, but when it was all said and done, I had eaten two burgers and helped in devouring a big bag of Zapps Honey Bee-licious chips.

After dinner, everyone bundled up and went outside. Ignoring all my whining about having absolutely no night vision, I was dragged along on this excursion by my newly-found friends. First, we set out to spot Hale-Bopp (which nobody could) then we moved on to visit the Mounds.

As all the students gathered on top of Mound A, otherwise known as the Bird Mound, the only light source came from the moon and a few cigarette lighters. The only thing I could see were the white blooms on

the dogwood trees and whoever happened to sit next to me. In this darkness, a group of us decided to go over to Mound B. We sat on top of the smaller mound talking of ancient peoples and pondering why they built this mound. They dug dirt with sticks and loaded baskets of it to form a pile that reached 20ft. high. What did people over 3,000 years ago need with the mound we sat on that night? We found out later that Mound B was a cremation site.

Doc Gibson led us on a walk-about the next morning. He showed us their dig sites, explained the large earthworks, and tried to give us an idea of what life must have been like that long ago. Poverty Point was not only the largest structure of its time but also a booming commercial center. The data collected from the area dates activity around the site to 1500 BC. Despite much of the collected information, little is actually known of the Poverty Point people themselves. But we had a fun and educational weekend pondering the mystery of Poverty Point.







A Portrait of  
**Acadian Village**

Photos: Tanya Cormier





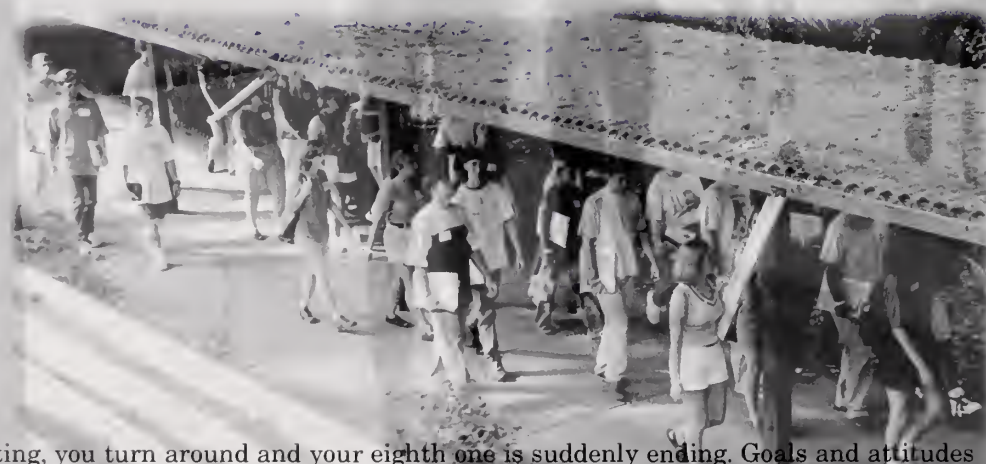
You would not normally think that the beginning and end of a college career could seem so close together, but they do. You never notice how quickly the years fly by.

Starting the college experience begins with **orientation**. In the summer before your freshman year, you venture to a place you have probably never seen, are greeted by people you do not know, and are told what you can expect the next **four years**. Being welcomed to college can blow your mind. It is a whirlwind of fun, fees, lines, (USL often stands for U Stand in Line), and laughter. Meeting someone who will become your best friend during your entire collegiate experience can be a wonderful relief. Knowing what your goals are tends to surprise everyone who has done this before.

So it begins. The journey of a lifetime. Joining clubs, having **fun**, meeting friends, and **studying** in your spare time, fill your days and nights. This is your life for the next few years. Just as it seems your first semester is



# from ORIENTATION



starting, you turn around and your eighth one is suddenly ending. Goals and attitudes seemed to have changed. College does not seem so overwhelming, although textbooks wear out quicker and are more expensive than they were in your first year of college.


The moment you have been striving for the past few years is about to occur. Just when you can't take anymore late nights of studying, your loan debt could not get any larger than the national one, and your **ID picture** could not seem any worse, it all starts to come to an end.







# to GRADUATION



**G**raduation is a mix of emotions. It is about going to a place in your life that you have never seen, meeting people you have never met, and having no idea what to expect out of the next fifty years. Saying goodbye to that friend you met the first day is difficult. Forgetting the meals in the cafeteria, and the classes you shared, can never be completely accomplished. You are filled with the dreams of what the future holds as you walk up to receive that special piece of paper on graduation day. One journey of a lifetime is ending, and another is beginning. Where did the time go?

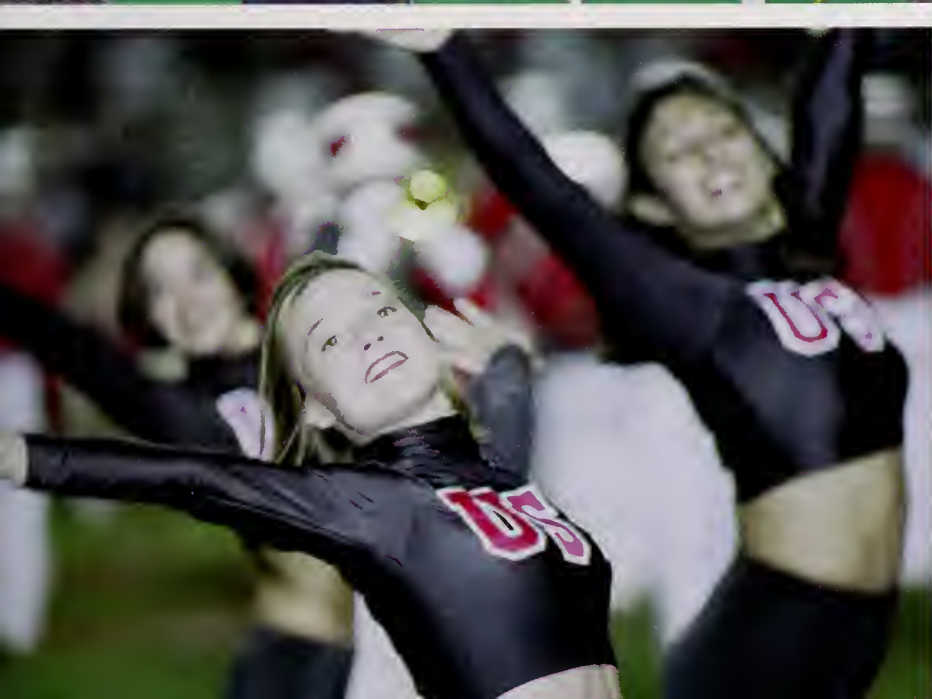
by Jennifer Bridges



# Homecoming 1997 court

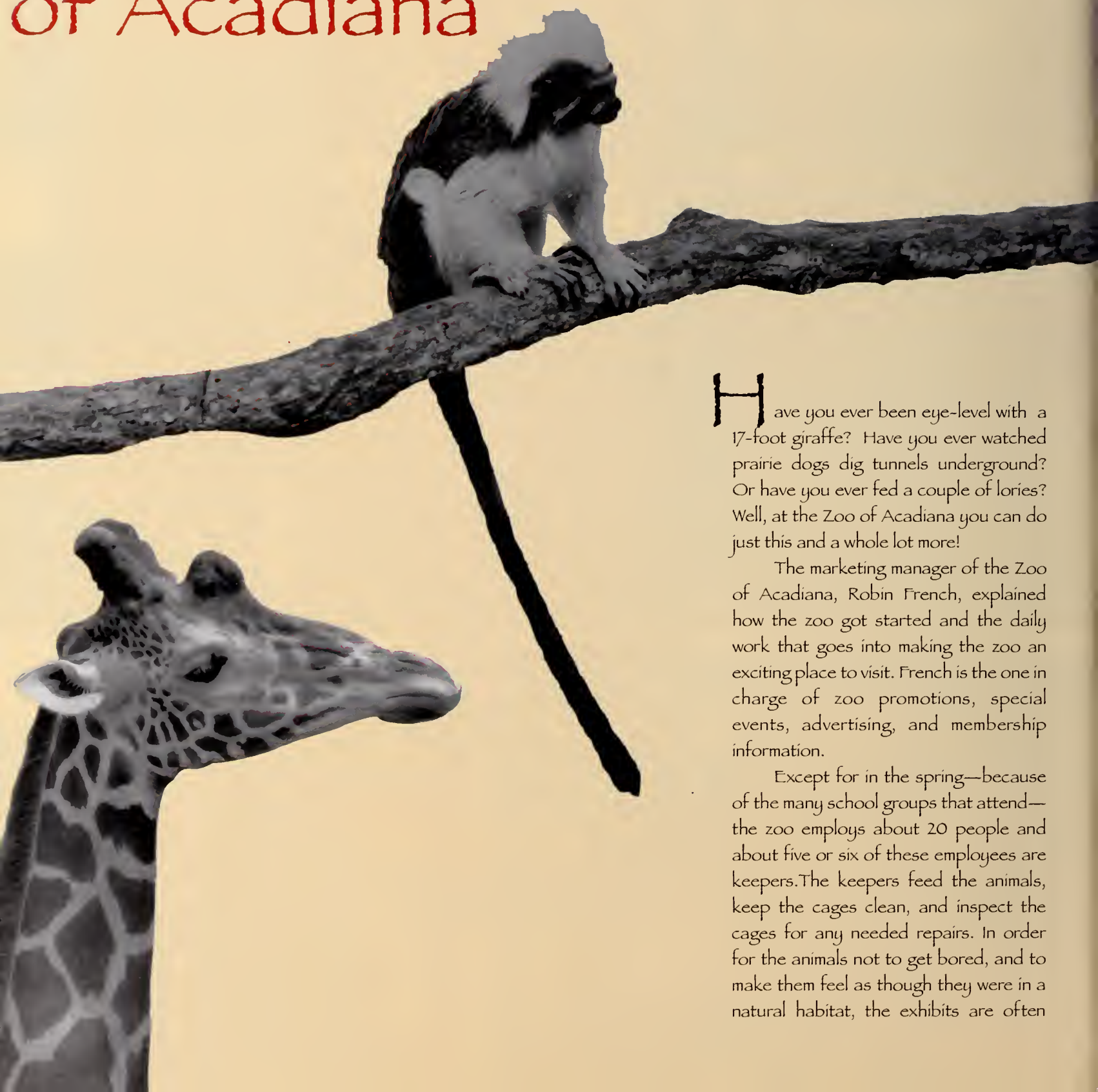








# the Zoo of Acadiana



Have you ever been eye-level with a 17-foot giraffe? Have you ever watched prairie dogs dig tunnels underground? Or have you ever fed a couple of lories? Well, at the Zoo of Acadiana you can do just this and a whole lot more!

The marketing manager of the Zoo of Acadiana, Robin French, explained how the zoo got started and the daily work that goes into making the zoo an exciting place to visit. French is the one in charge of zoo promotions, special events, advertising, and membership information.

Except for in the spring—because of the many school groups that attend—the zoo employs about 20 people and about five or six of these employees are keepers. The keepers feed the animals, keep the cages clean, and inspect the cages for any needed repairs. In order for the animals not to get bored, and to make them feel as though they were in a natural habitat, the exhibits are often





moved around and food will be hidden in the cages so the animals will have to hunt for it.

The most favored animal at the zoo is the giraffe. The giraffe is not only loved by many, but it is also what the zoo represents. The Zoo of Acadiana strongly believes in personal interaction with the animals. It is shown by the numerous opportunities that people have to feed the animals, and by allowing



people to touch the animals.

The logo of the zoo is a human face leaning towards a giraffe. This symbolizes the idea that the animals love human attention, and that people can learn more when they get up close and interact with the animals. It is less likely that children will fear animals and will love the animals, if they are allowed to touch them and interact with them on a one-to-one basis.

The Zoo of Acadiana opened about five years ago. Life long residents of Acadiana, Cable and Rose

Prejean, got the whole idea into motion. The Prejeans were known as being exotic bird collectors, and people used to joke about them starting a zoo because of the quantity of birds the Prejeans owned. Well, this did not seem like such a bad idea being that the closest zoo is located in Baton Rouge. So, in order to develop ideas of what they would want in a zoo and what they could do financially, Mr. and Mrs. Prejean spent their time attending seminars, conferences, and visiting several zoos. Home Savings believed in the project and helped with the expenses the Prejeans could not quite afford, in order for the zoo to get started.

The zoo is completely privately funded, meaning that the city and state do not financially support the Zoo of Acadiana. Therefore, the zoo totally depends on admissions and donations. There really is a lot more at the zoo than most people would think.

The zoo has more than 750 animals from 5 continents, and represents more than 120 different species in a 37 acre setting. The zoo's hours are from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. seven days a week and is located right off of the New Iberia highway. And a little birdie said that there was going to be an orangutan coming to the

zoo soon, so go check it out and bring a friend or two!





# APARTMENTS VS DORMS



COLLEGE—A PLACE TO BE FREE FROM THE REIGNS OF PARENTS AND ADULT SUPERVISION—OF COURSE THAT'S IF YOU DON'T LIVE IN THE DORMS. A BRIEF INQUIRY INTO THE DEFINITIONS OF DORMITORY AND APARTMENT LIVING YIELDED QUITE CONVINCING RESULTS.

DORMITORY BY DEFINITION MEANS LIVING QUARTERS TO BE SHARED, WHILE APARTMENT LIVING MEANS ROOMS TO PREPARE A HOUSEHOLD IN. IF, BY CHANCE, WE WERE TO ONLY RELY ON THE DEFINITION OF THE TWO, WE WOULD PROBABLY CHOOSE APARTMENT LIVING. ALTHOUGH DORM LIVING GETS A BAD RAP, THERE ARE MANY ADVANTAGES AND SOCIAL POSITIVES TO BE OBTAINED BY SPENDING A SEMESTER OR TWO IN THEM.

ONE OF THE ADVANTAGES IN DORM LIVING IS THAT YOU ARE PUT IN THE POSITION TO EXPAND YOUR SOCIAL HORIZON. THE DORM FORCES YOU TO MEET PEOPLE WHO, IN MOST LIKELYHOOD, YOU WOULD NEVER MEET. ANOTHER ADVANTAGE IS THAT YOU ARE RIGHT ON CAM-





PUS. BEING ON CAMPUS ALSO MEANS YOU DON'T HAVE TO WAKE UP TEN TO FIFTEEN MINUTES EARLIER THAN NECESSARY TO LOOK FOR A PARKING SPACE OR A FREE BIKE RACK.

APARTMENT LIVING'S ADVANTAGES TO MOST STUDENTS FAR OUTWEIGH THOSE OF DORM LIVING. WITH APARTMENT LIVING, YOU HAVE THE FREEDOM TO COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE, STUDY IN A SEMI-QUIET ENVIRONMENT, AND APARTMENT LIVING ALSO ELIMINATES THE DREADFUL WALK OF DEATH TO THE POTTY FACILITIES.

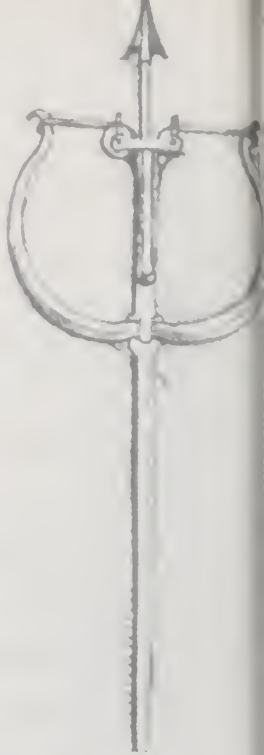
MELANIE MCCARTHY, A JUNIOR IN MARKETING, SAID THAT ALTHOUGH DORM LIVING MADE IT EASIER TO ATTEND CLASS, IT MADE IT HARDER TO STUDY, FEEL RELAXED, AND EAT HEALTHY. MELANIE SAID THAT EATING HEALTHY WAS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO DO, DUE TO THE KITCHENS AVAILABLE IN THE DORMS AND THE FOOD BEING SERVED IN THE CAFETERIA. THE MAJORITY OF STUDENTS THAT WERE INTERVIEWED AGREED THAT APARTMENT LIVING WAS THE BEST CHOICE OF THE TWO. MOST OF THEM ALSO AGREED THAT WHILE APARTMENT LIVING GIVES YOU THAT EXTRA FREEDOM TO COME AND GO AS YOU PLEASE, IT DOES NOT GIVE YOU THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET A VARIETY OF PEOPLE AS DO THE DORMS.

RITA SOILEAU, A CHEMICAL ENGINEERING GRADUATE STUDENT, SUGGESTED THAT ALL STUDENTS THINK ABOUT LIVING IN THE DORMS THEIR FIRST OR SECOND SEMESTER. SHE SAID BY LIVING IN THE DORMS SHE LEARNED WHO SHE COULD LIVE WITH, AND WHAT RULES SHE COULD PUT UP WITH.

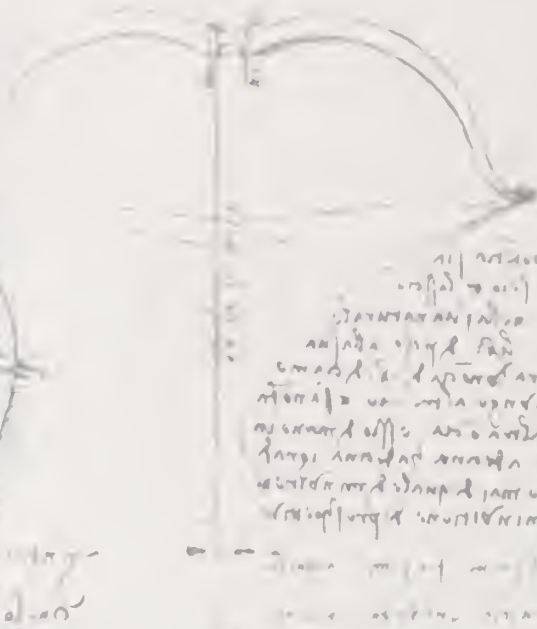
SO, ALTHOUGH DORM LIVING SHOULD BE EXPERIENCED, A PERMANENT STAY WHILE IN COLLEGE MAY NOT BE FOR ALL STUDENTS.



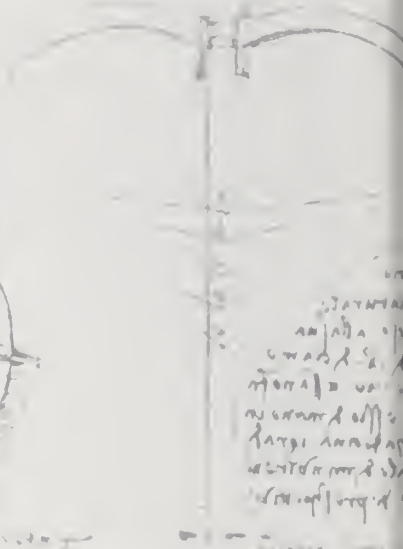




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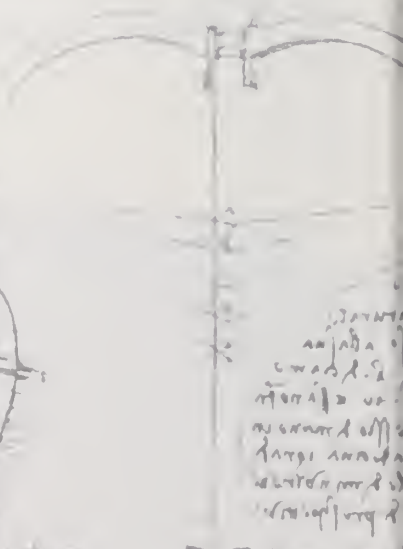
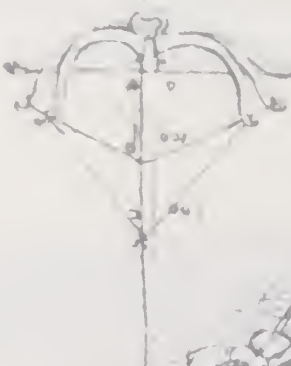
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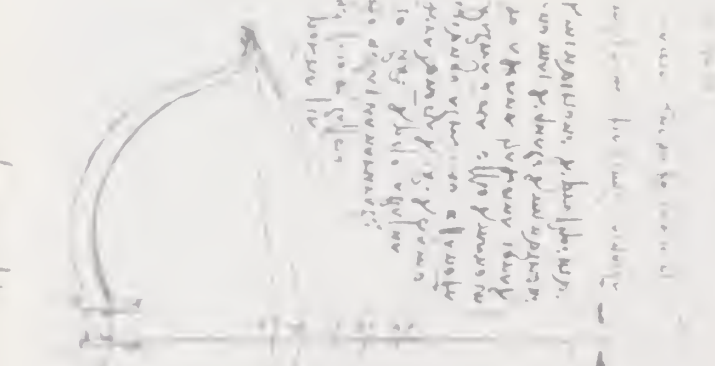
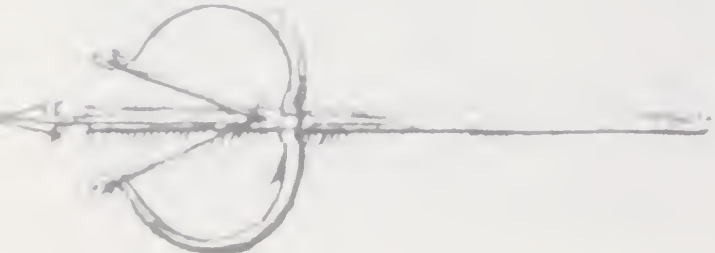
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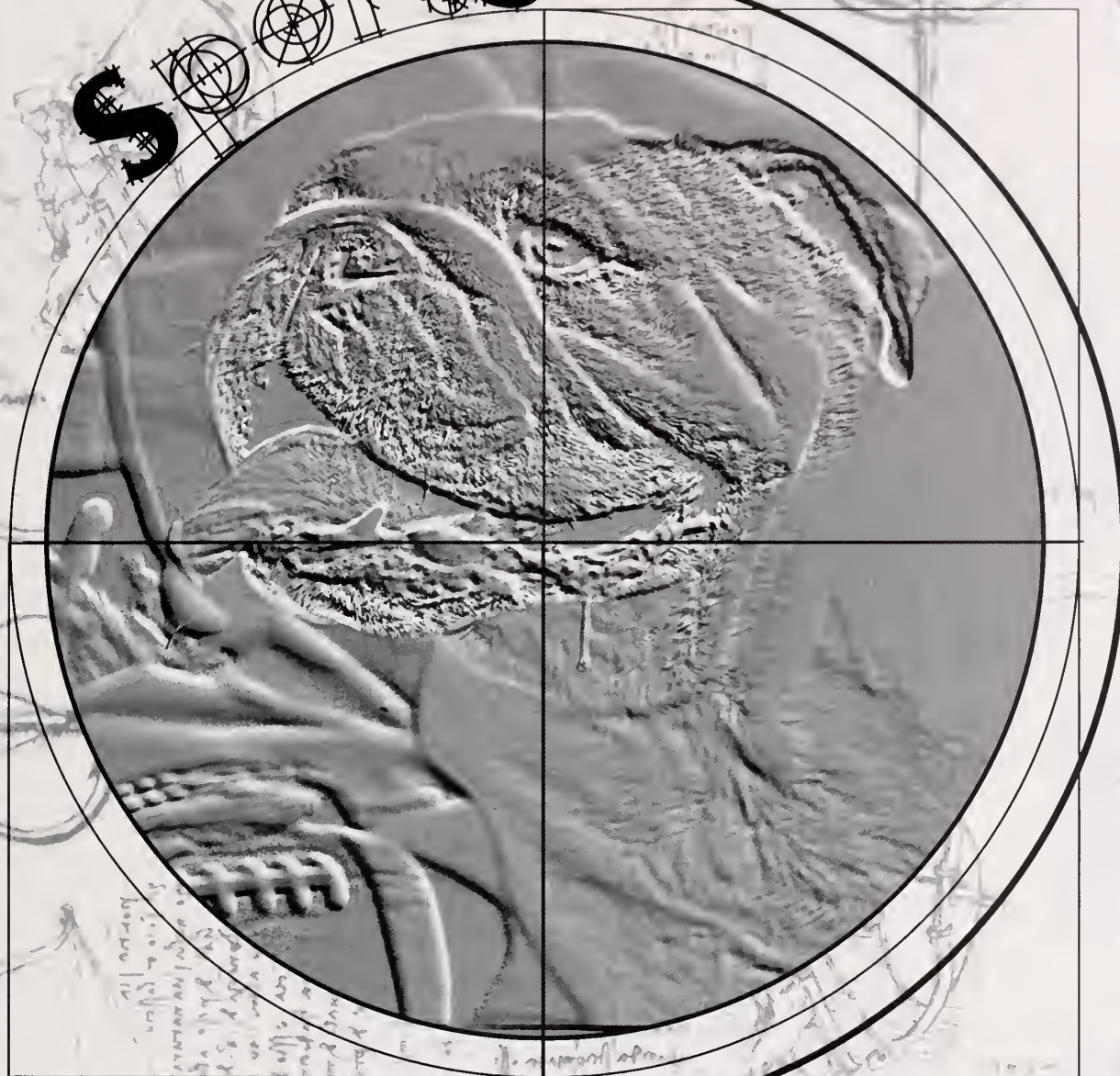


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# Sports



## SPORTING A NEW LOOK:

The essence of sports is action—movement that demands pace, precision, and skill. Participation in athletics is a form of expression that combines the efforts of the mind and the body. In sports, a single play, game, season, or career can transform a person's life, leaving an imprint on others—an impression that can last for decades. Through sports, we are most alive. We are able to get the most out of ourselves and lead others to do more than they ever thought possible. 





# EVANS' BASKETBALL GOALS

Motivation and leadership seem to flow from USL's new head basketball coach.

Coach Jessie Evans comes to USL from the University of Arizona, where he was an assistant coach on their national championship team in the 1996-1997 season. Along with Evans' ability to motivate and lead, he also has ambition. He wants to be the leader of a team. He wants to mold a team in his own style of basketball. That's what brought him to USL.

"Well, number one—head coaching position," Evans said in listing the criteria that helped him decide on USL. "And, some of the things that I've always looked for in my pursuit of a head coaching position are warm climate, good support, great facilities and a school that is conscientious academically."

"USL, in my estimation, was major A+ in all those areas. I love the climate down here, and humidity doesn't bother me. After all, I am used to hot weather," Evans said with a smile.

Recruiting is a major factor for any coach because the number of scholarships he or she has to hand out is limited. So, recruiting is crucial to building a good team, and

Evans said USL's team will benefit from his recruiting efforts. "We completed our recruiting, and we signed four players. One junior college All-American, and three high school kids. So, we are complete. We have five returning seniors that are going to be the focal point of our team," Evans said.

Love of the game and the necessary skills to play at the university level are important to Evans, but he stresses academics as the key to his young players' futures. "Once you get to your senior year, I want you to be so close to that degree that you can taste it," he said.

Academic standards must be met to enter USL and play for Evans. Players must meet the normal NCAA academic standards on SAT and ACT tests and have at least, "a 2.5 in your core classes; English, science, math, history, foreign languages and those types of classes," Evans said about the standards required to qualify for USL.

But, the new coach has his own standards and goals for his players. Evans wants his players to graduate from USL, so he takes a hard look at prospects. "Once they get here, they have to be matriculating through college. For instance, they have to pass at least 24 units every year, Evans said. "Then, I will require them to go a step beyond that. The guys coming in know that I want them to pass at least 30 units each year."

Evans said that such a small percentage of college basketball players go on to play in the pros that, "you've got to get your degree."

So, USL's new basketball coach examines each potential player's qualifications academically, and in regard to basketball skills. "Sometimes, we are probably going to have kids come in and visit our campus, and we are going to find out, not only that they will like some other program more than they like us, but we are going to find out after they visit us for 48 hours that we aren't going to like them. Because, they are not going to fit in to the type of player and the type of person that we want on our basketball team, and the type of person that we want in our community. So, we are going to be looking at them just like they are going to be looking at us," Evans said.

Building a successful basketball program takes time and effort from the coaching staff and the players. It will also take plenty of support from the students and the community to reach the final four.

"First things first. That's what we plan to do. Step by step," Evans said in describing the process that he envisions leading to more glory for the USL basketball program. 🏀





# A SEASON

## CAJUNS TRANSFORM LEADERSHIP AFTER A DISAPPOINTING SEASON

The 1996-97 USL basketball season involved a transformation at the top level—a metamorphosis that some fans had been seeking for years. With a host of young talent and a favorable schedule, the Cajuns entered the season hoping to return to their winning ways of years past. By the end of the season, the team would suffer through multiple losing streaks only to completely self-destruct in the final game of the season. That disintegration led to a change in Marty Fletcher's tenure as head coach of the program.

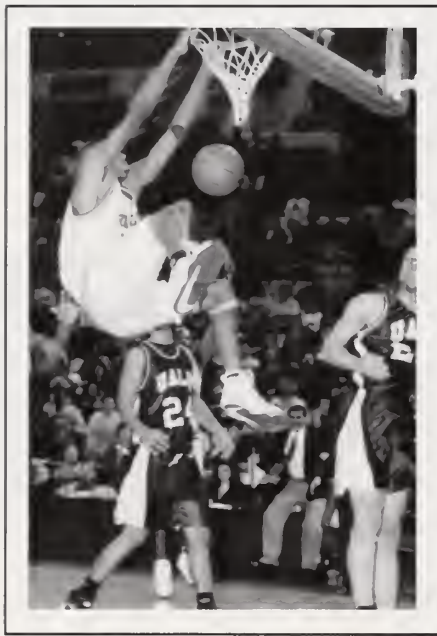
Marty Fletcher was unable to motivate the Cajuns in 1997



# OF LOSS







In many ways, the season was over just as it had started. The Cajuns lost six straight games to open the year—including a 96-70 opening-night loss to Florida State—and never really recovered, finishing the season below .500. Against FSU, the Cajuns shot less than 35 percent from the floor, and FSU also out rebounded the Cajuns 52-26. “Obviously, we didn’t shoot well,” said Marty Fletcher. “And we just got outmanned tonight.”

Senior Richard Mauzey (who averaged 8.7 points and 4.8 rebounds on the year) scored 18 in the opening loss, and junior Reggie Poole added 7 rebounds. In the third game of the year, Marshall came from behind to beat USL 71-61 before only 2,724 fans in the Cajundome.

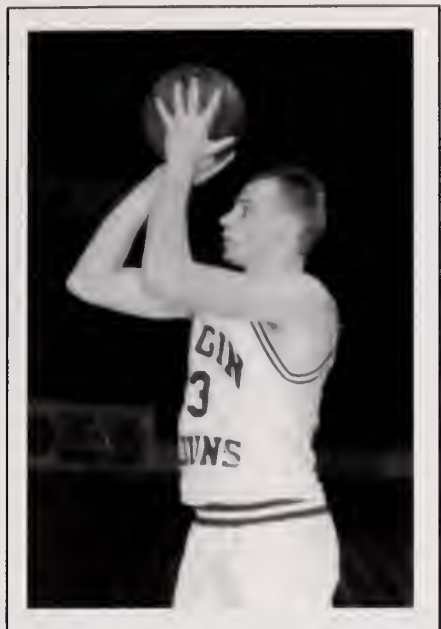
In a loss to Ohio State, junior forward Chris Manuel pumped in 25 points, but it wasn’t enough as the Cajuns fell 94-88. Twenty-four turnovers cost the Cajuns the contest.

After the 0-6 start, USL won four in a row to give fans a little hope for a successful season. In the first USL win of the year, Poole took the team on his shoulders and scored 30 points and pulled down 19 rebounds. The Cajuns’ mini-streak was capped by a 84-63 home win against Southern Mississippi. In that game, Mauzey again stepped up big as he scored 25 points. “We played the way Ragin’ Cajun basketball is supposed to be played,” Mauzey, who made seven of 10 three-pointers in the contest, said. “That was one of the funnest games we’ve played this year,” said junior Chris Manuel, who scored 19 in the contest.

Midway through the season, USL stood at 6-8, but four consecutive losses to Sun Belt Conference opponents in late January sealed the Cajuns’ fate. After a 100-76 loss to arch-rival New Orleans, USL’s record stood at 7-12. But more importantly, the team lost the services of junior point guard Chris Snowden who suffered a sprained ankle in the game. “We were devastated by the loss,” Fletcher said. “We got beat very badly. But we lost to an excellent team.”

After a 82-57 loss to Louisiana Tech, USL’s record stood at 9-14 and 7-8 in conference. “We just have to keep our heads up now and try to get some wins before the tournament,” Manuel said.





"We are a team with limitations, and we weren't able to overcome those against Louisiana Tech," Coach Fletcher said. "We're not a high-percentage type of team, so we've got to get off more shots than our opponents."

Perhaps most disappointing and hurtful to fans and players alike, was the manner in which the Cajuns completed the year. The Cajuns finished the season at 11-5 and 9-9 in conference. In the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, USL slipped past South Alabama 56-53 before self-destructing in a 66-39 loss to South Alabama. The loss to South Alabama on March 1, showed a Cajun club that had given up on the season and themselves. The Cajuns scored only 10 points in the second half of the game and shot only 24 percent from the floor.

And at the end of the season, Marty Fletcher and USL gave up on each other, as it was decided that Fletcher would not return for the 1997-98 season. Fletcher left behind an 11-year 176-146 record and two tournament bids. But, he also left behind a Cajundome that was less than a quarter full during the season, as the Cajuns averaged only 2,925 fans per home game during his final season. After 20-win campaigns in 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92, and 1993-94, Fletcher's squad won only 35 games over the past three seasons while losing 50 games. Fletcher's career record is 231-221.

On the year, the Ragin' Cajuns shot a sub-par 41 percent from the floor, including 31 percent from behind the three-point line. At the charity stripe, USL managed 67.5 percent. Junior center Reggie Poole led the squad in scoring (16 ppg) and rebounding (10.3). Poole was named to the All-Sun Belt Conference team after the season. "Before the season, I set some goals," Poole said. "One of those goals was to make the all-conference team, and I'm proud of that. I consider myself to be an all-around player. Whatever it takes to win on the court, I'll do it."

Fellow junior Chris Manuel chipped in 15.4 points per game and 5.6 boards per contest. Conley Verdun added 14.3 ppg, and Casey Green averaged 11.3 points on the year. 🏀

70-96	Florida State
74-81	SW Missouri State
61-71	Marshall
88-94	Ohio State
59-79	Va. Commonwealth
56-65	East Carolina
W 91-65	Southern
W 84-63	Southern Mississippi
W 66-63	South Alabama
W 86-80	Arkansas State
87-91	Jacksonville
W 86-78	Lamar
80-86	Western Kentucky
W 87-84	Arkansas-Little Rock
W 75-71	Texas-Pan American
84-88	Arkansas State
64-79	Arkansas-Little Rock
52-57	Louisiana Tech
76-100	U. of New Orleans
W 95-87	Jacksonville
78-80	Western Kentucky
W 77-70	Texas-Pan American
57-82	Louisiana Tech
72-75	Lamar
W 89-79	U. of New Orleans
W 65-62	South Alabama
W 56-53	Texas-Pan American
39-66	South Alabama



# CONSISTENTLY



# CRUSHED

LADY CAJUNS SUFFER A SEASON OF BLOWOUT LOSSES





**USL** women's basketball coach Gay Nix isn't used to losing. The former state championship high school coach hoped to turn the USL program around in her first year after the team went, 16-142 in the five years before she arrived. But the squad endured a long season filled with several 20 and 30-point losses.

USL opened, and finished the season in similar fashion—with poor shooting and multiple turnover games, a lethal combination that led to the Lady Cajuns getting blown out several times during the year. Against Louisiana Tech in the first game of the season, USL was outmatched and lost 32-79. Game two against Texas San Antonio was not much better as USL fell 38-63, committing 31 turnovers in the contest.

"We weren't blocking out and putting a body on them," Nix said. "Once again, our execution on offense along with turnovers hurt us. We're going to have to do a better job of coming out and executing both offensively and defensively for 40 minutes."

In the third game of the season, USL

came close, but lost to Louisiana College 56-62. The Lady Wildcats outscored the Lady Cajuns 11-2 in the last 3:33 to take the win.

"I just feel like it should have been our game," Nix said. "I feel like we gave them an early Christmas present and even gift-wrapped it for them. They out hustled us and got offensive rebounds. We just let them have too many offensive rebounds and gave it away."

Brandy Allen led USL with 16 points, and Suzanne Lopinto contributed 12 points and 6 assists. The loss extended USL's losing streak to 21 games, going back to the 1995-96 season.

After a 38-81 loss to Tulane, Nix began to see some improvement. "I felt like for the first time this year, we came out and played with the type of intensity we needed to play with," she said. "We played hard, and we played physical. We just couldn't throw it in the ocean."

The Lady Cajuns next faced Virginia Intermont, scoring a 59-36 win.

After their first win of the season,

USL then lost 13 straight games to post a 1-17 record overall.

In game seven of the season, the Lady Cajuns suffered a 98-55 thrashing by Sam Houston State. USL hit on four of its first five shots to take a 10-5 lead but hit only four of their next 20 shots in the first half. The Lady Cats took a 47-27 lead at halftime and hit 56.5 percent from the field for the game to USL's 31.3 percent. Brandy Allen topped USL scorers with 10 points.

Against 18-ranked Western Kentucky, the Lady Cajuns shot only 29 percent and committed 34 turnovers in a 38-point loss. WKU broke the game open, outscoring USL 20-0 to end the first half. USL was 0-3 against the Lady Toppers on the year and scored only 38, 30, and 36 points in those three games.

After a 58-59 loss to Lamar, Coach Nix still remained optimistic for team growth and improvement. "I was pleased with the way we kept coming back against Lamar," she said. "Whenever we fell behind, we would scrap back and find a way to get back in the game." Brandy Falgoust finished the game with 16 points. Jade Landry







collected 10 rebounds and five assists against the Lady Cardinals.

A 80-59 win over Texas-Pan American gave the Lady Cajuns a small taste of what it's like to be on the winning side of a blowout. "We were playing well as a team and communicating," said Brandy Allen, who scored 17 points in the game. "We came together, and there was no selfishness there. We were looking for the open person and making the extra pass instead of looking to shoot."

Her teammate Brandy Falgoust scored 11 of her 18 points in the first half of the game to get USL off to a fast start. "We talked before the game, and our goal was to get the ball down low and get their big girls in foul trouble," Falgoust said. The Cajuns had defeated Texas-Pan American 58-53 earlier in the year and had four players in double figures for the first time on the year in the 80-59 win.

The combination of promising starts followed by cold shooting and turnovers plagued USL Lady Cajuns the entire year. Against McNeese State late

in the year, USL was outscored 33-8 in the final four minutes of the first half to finish the game on the losing end of a 44-81 score.

Instead of improving over the course of the year, the team failed to become more competitive as the season progressed. The final game of the year was the most disappointing, as USL lost 36-103 to Western Kentucky. The Lady Cajuns trailed 52-23 at the half and shot just 18.5 percent from the floor in the second half. USL was also outscored 21-0 to end the game and the year.

"I think this was one of our poorer efforts this year," Nix said. "We were very cold in shooting in the second half, and turnovers plagued us all year long. I guess our most consistent thing this year is being inconsistent. We've played great in some games and haven't shown up to play in some others. This is one of the worst efforts we've had this season."

The 67-point loss to Western Kentucky to end the year was the worst defeat since USL lost to Louisiana Tech

111-40 in the second-to-last game of the 1995-96 season.

On the year, USL was outscored by an average of 75.7- 48.4. The team shot .315 percent from the field and .671 from the charity stripe. Brandy Allen led the squad with 9.6 points per game. Brandy Falgoust added 8.6 points and 5.1 rebounds.

With at least 8 new players set for the 1997-98 season, including 6'-6" junior college transfer standout, Natisha Ferguson, look for the Lady Cajuns' win total to rise significantly. Ferguson, who will tie a school record as the tallest player in a Cajun uniform, matching 6'-6" Donna Conder (1986-87), averaged 19.5 points and 17 rebounds for the Lady Lakers of Sullivan College in Louisville. 🏀







# the RECORD



32-79	Louisiana Tech
38-63	Texas San Antonio
56-62	Louisiana College
38-81	Tulane
W 59-36	Virginia Intermont
56-66	Nichols State
55-98	Sam Houston State
50-83	Wichita State
65-79	Louisiana College
61-71	Lamar
30-87	Louisiana Tech
38-92	Western Kentucky
41-83	Arkansas State
30-68	Western Kentucky
44-62	Nichols State
45-58	South Alabama
58-59	Lamar
41-81	Southeast Louisiana
W 58-53	Texas Pan American
34-97	Louisiana Tech
57-86	New Orleans
54-80	South Alabama
44-95	Arkansas State
W 80-59	Texas Pan American
44-81	McNeese State
64-82	New Orleans
36-103	Western Kentucky



After a cold start, the Lady Cajuns finally found their game faces and put together another sparkling year and a trip to the post season that included hosting yet another regional tournament. The Lady Cajuns finished 1996 at 46-10 and fifth in the Women's College World Series. Having lost five seniors, two of which were All-Americans, the Lady Cajuns seemed ready for a sub-par year--at least by USL standards. Returning just four starters and welcoming six freshmen, 1997 was a year of transition and rebuilding. Someone forgot to tell the Lady Cajun that rebuilding usually translates into losing seasons. USL began the season ranked No. 7 in the country. "Respect. Pure and simple respect," Head Coach Yvette Girouard said of the preseason ranking. "It's a little higher than I expected. I thought maybe Top 20, but not the Top 10."

# better late

That ranking was tested early as the Cajuns fell to 7-8 early in the season after a mistake-plagued Louisiana Classics Tournament and a double header sweep by Northeast Louisiana. "It was an ugly, ugly weekend," Head Coach Yvette Girouard said after a 4-3 loss to Baylor. "We didn't have good pitching. We made way too many defensive mistakes. We made too many outs. And I didn't do a very good job coaching."

The team accomplished a 180-degree turnaround after the loss to Northeast as they won seven games in a row. In a game against Nicholls State, senior first baseman Stephanie DeFeo drove in five runs, including the game winner, as freshman Kim Dunlap picked up the win.

USL entered the Pony Invitational at 15-8 and ranked 22nd in the nation. The tournament was unkind to the Lady Cajuns as they won only once, and lost four times in the tournament to return home at 16-12, two more losses than they suffered in all of 1996.

The team found their niche and stayed red hot the rest of the year winning

# than never

28 of 32 contests, finishing the regular season at 44-16.

The big turnaround was in the Princeton Invitational in which USL won five games and outscored opponents 19-4 in the tournament. In the championship game, Clendenin pitched a one-hitter and Lori Osterberg drove in both runs in a 2-0 victory. "it feels good to win a tournament title," Girouard said. "We've played really well the last three weeks.

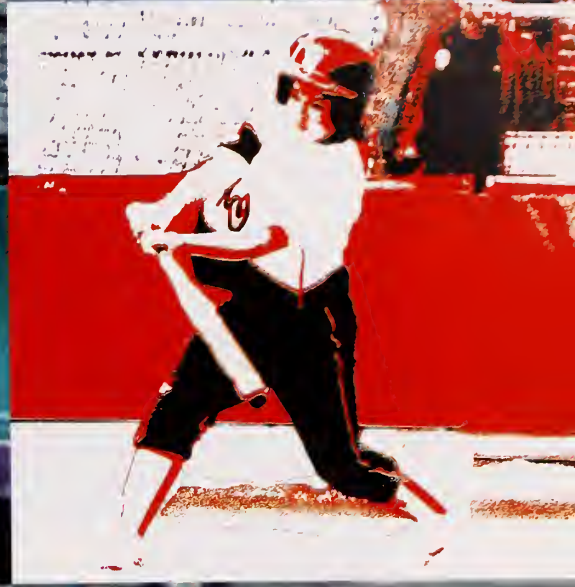
We're starting to get some breaks, and we made the most of the opportunities we had this weekend. And I'm happy for our players.

These kids worked really hard."

A win against Northwestern State put USL at 34-14 with a nine-game winning streak. "I thought we did what we had to do tonight," Girouard said.

"We were swinging the bat well, seeing the ball pretty good. And we're going to need this momentum."







Against McNeese in Lake Charles, Tiffany Clark collected four RBIs and hit her first career home run as senior, pitcher Jennifer Clendenin picked up her 22nd win on the year.

In the second game of a doubleheader against Centenary, DeFeo hit a grand slam in a 10-2 win to give the Cajuns 41 wins on the year. The Cajuns pounded out 34 hits in the doubleheader win.

At season's end, a doubleheader against LSU epitomized the Lady Cajuns' season. In the first game, LSU won a squeaker 1-0 before USL came back



with a vengeance to post an 11-2 trouncing before 1,328 fans in Lafayette. USL and LSU last met in softball action 16 years ago.

"This hasn't been a typical Lady Cajun team, but our destiny is in our hands," Girouard said. "For a while, I was not sure of the personality of this team," she said of her six-freshmen team.

In the weekend Regional action, USL beat UCLA 4-1 on Friday, and on Sunday, USL needed only a single victory against the Bruins to qualify for the World Series. But UCLA put together two impressive shutout wins 9-0 and 3-0, to keep USL at home and one step from the World Series.

"Right there is probably why they (UCLA) are eight-time champions," Girouard said. "They made the plays they had to make. After the Louisiana Classics, I never thought we'd be in this position. My hat is off to them," Girouard said of her players. "This is the grittiest team I've ever had." The Lady Cajuns placed seven players on the All-State squad, including Jennifer Clendenin (29-13, 1.05 ERA, 274 innings pitched, 212 strikeouts), Stephanie DeFeo (.350, 15 HRs, 61 RBI, 41 walks, .695 slugging percentage, .480 on-base-percentage), and Freshman of the Year Tiffany Clark (.385, 36 RBI, 16 doubles) on the first team. Others named to All-State were Kelli Bruce (.276, 7 HR, 28 RBI, 11 SB), Lori Osterberg (.364, 3 HR, 37 RBI, .511 slugging percentage), Lana Jimenez (.291, 4 doubles, 8 triples, 28 RBI), and Joni Podhorez (.353, 23 stolen bases, .400 on-base percentage).

DeFeo finished her career as a three-time Academic All-American selection, and was only the seventh player in NCAA history to hit at least 40 career home runs. DeFeo finished her career with nine school records, including season home runs (15), career homers (43) and career RBI (187).

She hit .373 and stole 27 bases in her career.





Jennifer Clendenin completed her eligibility with a 74-17 career mark, a .096 ERA, and 547 career strikeouts. She leaves the mound duties to Kim Dunlap who was 15-3 in 1996 with a 1.35 ERA in 119.1 innings.

The Lady Cajuns finished 1997 at 46-18 and have averaged more than 46 wins (373) from 1990-97. The team has qualified for seven straight regionals and three World Series berths in the 1990s.

Yvette Girouard has a career mark of 622-209, including 264-52 in 13 years at Lady Cajun Park.



W 4-1	McNeese St
W 7-0	McNeese St
W 2-1	Oklahoma
W 3-2	Oklahoma
2-7	Baylor
W 3-0	Alabama
1-4	Arizona
3-4	Baylor
2-4	Notre Dame
W 6-0	Massachusetts
0-3	South Carolina
2-4	Illinois St.
W 6-5	Texas A&M
0-1	Northeast LA
0-1	Northeast LA
W 5-0	SW Texas St
W 10-0	SW Texas St
W 6-2	Northwestern St.
W 5-2	Northwestern St.
W 6-1	Nicholls St.
W 4-1	Nicholls St.
W 7-0	Southeastern LA
W 11-0	Southeastern LA
4-5	Washington
2-3	Cal-St. Fullerton
W 8-0	Georgia St.
2-3	Cal-St Northridge
0-2	UNLV
W 9-2	Nebraska
W 7-1	Nebraska
W 10-2	Georgia Southern
W 9-0	Harvard
W 11-2	Virginia Tech
W 1-0	SW Missouri St.
W 9-1	Georgia Tech
W 3-2	Nicholls St.
0-4	Utah
W 2-0	Northeast LA
1-2	Northeast LA
W 5-2	Hofstra
W 1-0	Princeton
W 6-0	Connecticut
W 5-2	Princeton
W 2-0	Connecticut
W 8-0	Southeastern LA
W 6-0	Southeastern LA
W 9-3	Northwestern St.
W 6-1	Northwestern St.
0-1	Louisiana Tech
W 7-1	Louisiana Tech
W 1-0	McNeese St
W 7-3	McNeese St
W 12-0	Trov State
W 5-4	Trov State
W 15-0	Centenary
W 10-2	Centenary
W 3-0	Nicholls St.
W 5-4	Nicholls St.
0-1	LSU
W 11-2	LSU
W 2-1	Northcast La
W 4-1	UCLA
0-9	UCLA
0-3	UCLA

Story: Matt Tarver Photos: Jason Kaliszkeski







In 1997, the USL baseball team achieved something fans have been waiting for since head coach Tony Robichaux arrived in Lafayette in 1995--a winning season and a trip to a post-season tournament.

After two years of being shackled by university and NCAA sanctions due to rules violations, the Ragin' Cajuns found themselves back in familiar territory--the postseason. Led by six seniors, USL finished the regular season as Sun Belt Conference Champions, with a 43-18 record and a No. 17 national ranking. The team finished 43-18 overall with a 22-5 home record.

In the second game of the season, USL faced Florida, the No. 3 team in the nation. A 6-5 loss provided a foundation and was a learning experience for the Cajuns. After a 9-8 (1-2) start, the Cajuns seemed destined for another season of mediocrity (21-24 in 1995 and 25-33 in 1996). But, by

# doing more

April, the Cajuns were putting together strings of six and seven wins, and had broken into the Top 25 in the nation with a 20-7 (10-2) record on the year. The ranking was the school's first since 1994.

The highlight on the year for the Cajuns was a 10-8 come-from-behind win over defending national champion LSU. In the game, USL pounded out 14

hits before 6,572 fans who watched freshman Philip Devey beat the

Tigers, who had a 34-8 record. Devey pitched 3 2/3 innings of relief, striking out seven Tiger batters on route to his first college victory.

In the game, USL trailed 5-0 before Steven Feehan hit a three-run homer off LSU starter Eric Berthlot to narrow the gap to 5-3. "I was looking fastball," Feehan said. "He just brought it right where I wanted it."

Zach Wilson later scored on an error, to make it 5-4. Kevin Cantrelle then hit his own three-run shot off LSU ace Patrick Coogan to put USL ahead

# with less

7-8. "I went up there knowing a little bit about Coogan," Cantrelle said.

"I was looking dead red fastball, so when he threw it for a strike, I just got after it."

LSU's Wes Davis hit a second solo home run on the night to tie the game at 7.

USL's Brett Stafford singled and scored on Jeremy Neyland's triple to left center. Neyland scored with two outs on a wild pitch for a 9-7 Cajun lead. After Devey struck out the side in the eighth, Hemme hit a solo shot for a 10-7 lead. LSU's Brandon Larson hit a solo shot in the ninth, but the most powerful lineup in the nation could not muster any more runs and lost to USL 10-8.

At the time, the win was only the second against LSU in Baton Rouge in 1997. "Being from Baton Rouge, I can't even begin to tell you how much this means," said USL junior outfielder Neyland.



In a game within a game, LSU head coach Skip Bertman downplayed the importance of facing USL. "These games are tune-up games for the weekend," Bertman said before the contest. "That's all they are. I don't know anything about USL. I don't know USL's record. I don't know what place they're in and I don't know who's pitching for them. This game isn't about USL. It's just about us going out and getting better as a team for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday."

USL used the win and the seeming lack of respect to climb even higher in the national polls. On April 22, USL (33-14) climbed to 14th in the nation in Baseball America's poll, the highest ranking ever for USL



baseball. Four days later, on April 26, the Cajuns captured their first-ever Sun Belt Conference Championship with a 3-2 win over Texas-Pan American. USL won the game with a pinch-hit home run in the ninth by Jeff Robinson.

"We finally won something, and the greatest part is it's not over yet," Robichaux said. "This is special for me, my family, the university, and the coaches like Wade Simoneaux and Anthony Babineaux. The players deserve this. Our motto all year has been 6-3-1 Cajuns. We were sixth my first year, third last year, and now first."

In the season-ending series, USL beat Louisiana Tech 23-10 and 9-4 in a doubleheader. USL set a school record for hits with 26 in the first game as Cody Robbins earned his eleventh victory against no defeats. The Cajuns finished the regular season at 39-13 and had 22 conference wins, a Sun Belt Conference Record. The also were Sun Belt Conference Champs for the first time and hosted the Conference championship at "Tigue" Moore Field in Lafayette.

"This is when baseball is meant to be played," Robichaux said. "We've earned the right to host and now we have to get it done. "Our big motto the last couple of years has been do more with less."

USL sailed through the conference championship, and the players readied themselves for a regional appearance with the hope of a trip to the College World Series in Nebraska. The regional tournament in Mississippi was a disappointment for USL as they bowed out in two games, losing to Washington and to Georgia Tech.

Nonetheless, Robichaux has the Cajun guns loaded and is ready to continue the squad's winning ways through overachieving and by doing more with less.

On the year, USL was led by several hitters, including senior first baseman Oswaldo Aguirre (.356, 7 home runs, 57 RBI), junior second baseman Zach Wilson (.306, 3 home runs 19 RBI), sophomore shortstop Ian Callais



(.270, 14 RBI), senior third baseman Jim Fritz (.246, 6 home runs, 24 RBI), junior designated hitter Justin Hemme (.332, 12 home runs, 49 RBI, 12 doubles, .631 slugging percentage), and junior catcher Shannon Poole (.293, 2 home runs, 26 RBI).

Outfielders who paced the Cajuns were junior Kevin Cantrelle (.346, 8 home runs, 54 RBI, 16 doubles), junior Brandon Doucet (.298, 4 home runs, 19 RBI), freshman Steven Feehan (.300, 2 home runs, 14 RBI), and junior Jeremy Neyland (.310, 2 home runs, 14 RBI). B.J. Ryan hit .306 on the year with 4 HRs and 26 RBI

The dynamic duo of seniors Cody Robbins and Trey Pouland provided the Cajuns with stability on the mound. Robbins season ended at 12-1 with a 3.73 ERA. In 101.1 innings, he struck out 73 batters and surrendered 112 hits and 24 walks. He had eight complete games on the year. The Nederland, Texas product was named to the American Baseball Coach's Association All-South Central Region First Team.

Pouland finished with a 12-5 and a team-best 3.28 ERA. The Shreveport native had 140 strikeouts in 137 innings (fifth best in the nation going into the College World Series). He gave up 107 hits and 58 walks and also recorded three saves on the year.

Poland was honored as the Sun Belt Newcomer of the Year and was named to the First Team All-Sun Belt Conference Team. Poland was drafted in the fifth round of the MLB draft by the Texas Rangers.

Other key mound contributors on the 43-18 squad were: senior Chad Bailey 6-4 3.93 and freshman Philip Devey 3-2 4.72.

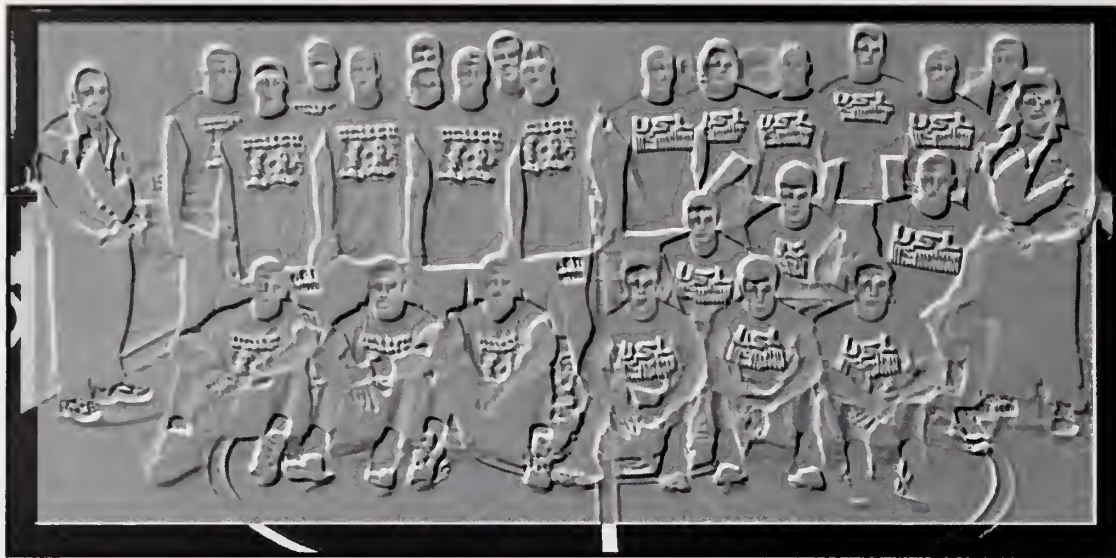
For their efforts, several Ragin' Cajuns were recognized with post-season accolades.

Tony Robichaux was named Sun Belt Conference Coach of the Year and Trey Poland was honored as Freshman of the Year. Poland, Robbins, Cantrelle, and Hemme were named First-Team Sun Belt Conference. Robbins was named Third-team All-American, the first USL player to be named to the Baseball America squad since Papo Ramos in 1992. He did not suffer his first loss of the season until USL's regional appearance in May.



0-7	Central Florida
5-6	Florida
W 22-3	Oral Roberts
W 12-5	Oral Roberts
W 2-1	SW Missouri St.
W 6-6	Indiana State
W 4-2	McNeese St.
W 10-4	Tampa
5-12	Tampa
W 1-1	Loyola (NO)
W 6-0	Loyola (NO)
3-9	Lamar
W 1-0	Lamar
H4	Lamar
5-7	Nicholls St
W 6-4	Jacksonville
3-1	Jacksonville
W 7-6	Jacksonville
3-13	Tulane
W 3-0	Northwestern St
W 9-6	Arkansas-Little Rock
W 4-3	Arkansas-Little Rock
W 14-0	Arkansas-Little Rock
W 12-11	Mississippi
W 6-5	New Orleans
W 1-5	New Orleans
W 6-3	New Orleans
W 5-2	Tulane
2-13	Tulane
6-8	South Alabama
W 11-0	South Alabama
W 7-3	South Alabama
4-21	Northwestern St
W 9-4	McNeese St
W 10-6	Western Kentucky
W 6-5	Western Kentucky
W 9-3	Western Kentucky
W 10-6	LSU
W 10-9	Delta St
W 6-4	Delta St
W 6-7	Northeast La
W 6-2	Arkansas St
W 4-3	Arkansas St
1-4	Arkansas St
W 1-1	Nicholls St
W 2-1	Texas-Pan American
W 3-2	Texas-Pan American
4-14	Texas-Pan American
5-8	Northwestern St
W 23-10	Louisiana Tech
W 9-4	Louisiana Tech
W 9-8	Louisiana Tech
6-11	Northeast La
W 12-2	Texas-Pan American
W 6-6	Louisiana Tech
0-5	South Alabama
W 6-5	Arkansas St
W 12-9	South Alabama
2-9	South Alabama
4-5	Washington
0-8	Georgia Tech





# FOOTBALL



# RYAN RIVALRY







ALTHOUGH USL AND LSU FOOTBALL PLAYERS DO NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE WITH EACH OTHER ON THE GRIDIRON, THEY DID GO HEAD TO HEAD ON A DIFFERENT PLAYING GROUND THIS WINTER.

ON FEBRUARY 15, CURRENT AND FORMER USL AND LSU FOOTBALL PLAYERS TRADED IN THEIR CLEATS FOR HIGH TOPS. THE TWO SCHOOLS MET IN A BASKETBALL CONTEST AT CARENCRO MIDDLE SCHOOL IN THE SECOND ANNUAL EVENT OF ITS KIND.


BEFORE A PACKED GYM, THE TIGERS POSTED A 87-76 VICTORY THAT WAS A WIN FOR ALL WHO PARTICIPATED, FOR THOSE WHO ATTENDED, AND FOR KIDS WHO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET AUTOGRAPHS FROM LOCAL COLLEGE STARS.

THE CARENCRO HIGH SCHOOL DAZZLERS, THE ST. THOMAS MORE SPARKLERS, AND THE TEURLINGS CATHOLIC REBEL REVIEW ALSO PERFORMED AT THE EVENT.

SCHEDULED MEMBERS OF THE USL TEAM WERE: JAKE DELHOMME, BRANDON STOKLEY, BARTON FOLSE, MIKE JONES, CODY ROMERO, CHAD HAKEMACK, CHUCKY WOODALL, LUCIUS DARNELL, BRIAN SOIGNIER, LUCAS YARNELL, AND DARREN STROTHER.

MEMBERS OF THE LSU SQUAD WERE: KEVIN FAULK, WADE RITCHEY, AARON ADAMS, FERNELL HANKTON, LARRY FOSTER, ANTHONY SKINNER, MARK ROMAN, MELVIN HILL, AND MIKE SUTTON.

"WE HAD A GOOD TIME AND A GOOD CROWD," SAID BILLY MCCAULEY, WHO HAS COACHED AT CARENCRO MIDDLE FOR 11 YEARS. "WE PLAN TO DO IT AGAIN NEXT YEAR."

WHO KNOWS? MAYBE THE FOOTBALL GODS WILL TAKE THE HINT AND THIS ATHLETIC RIVALRY WILL SPILL OVER ONTO THE FOOTBALL FIELD. 

USL

LSU



# IceGators Have Roller-Coaster Second Season

## CHOMP! CHOMP! CHOMP!

In 1997, thousands of people made trips to the Frozen Swamp as the Louisiana IceGators went from last to third in the race for the East Coast Hockey League's Kelly Cup.

IceGator coach Doug Shedden led a team of new and returning players to the final round of the Kelly Cup playoffs, an idea which seemed

an impossibility several weeks into the season.

The IceGators began the season with a league record-tying 9 straight wins, putting them well into first place in

South division standings, ahead of last year's arch-enemies the Tallahassee Tiger Sharks and Jacksonville Lizard Kings. That fast start also put them well in front of their new nemesis, the Baton Rouge Kingfish.

Lafayette found a formidable rival in the Kingfish, as the '96-'97 season saw the 'Gators and the 'Fish battle for the Atchafalaya Cup, which would be awarded to Baton Rouge at the end of the series between the teams.

## THE FORFEIT

After a surprisingly successful first year and a hot start in their second campaign, the IceGators' good fortune came to an end early in their second season. Due to a rules violation, the IceGators were forced to forfeit the first nine games of the season and shuffle their roster, which left them at the bottom of their division standings and forced them to scratch and claw their way to the top the rest of the season. The violation centered around the Mobile Mystiks claim that the IceGators had too many veteran players on the roster. ECHL rules

limit the number of veteran players teams can have on their roster. "Veteran" players are those with more than 200 games of professional hockey experience. East Coast Hockey League officials found Jack Williams had, indeed, played more than 200 games in his career.

The team was forced to forfeit their nine game winning streak, and, in an instant, went from first to last place.

## THE CLIMB TO THE TOP

The forfeits appeared to only spur the Gators to play harder. Led by Ron Handy (#9), Louis Dumont (#16), Aaron Boh (#77), and Rob Weingardner (#15), the team slowly climbed back up the standings. The month of February gave the IceGators a much needed boost, catapulting them into second place in the South Division, with a record number of wins in one month. The IceGators could see the playoffs in their future, just as Coach Shedden had promised, and as March wound down, it was final—the IceGators were in.

## THE TALENT

The season ended with several IceGators making headlines in scoring. Ron Handy (#9) and John Depourcq (#14) led the league in assists, with 67 and 63, respectively. Rob McCaig (#27) was fourth in the league in penalty minutes, having 383 minutes in 59 games - equivalent to over 6 games!

Several players were awarded honors by the East Coast Hockey League. Mark "The Brick Wall" Delorme (#33) was named Goaltender of the Year. Chris Valicevic (#24) was named Defenseman of the Year. Several players were given the opportunity to play in the league's All-Star game, which was played against the Charlotte Checkers, last year's Riley Cup winner.

## THE PLAYOFFS

Playoff tickets flew out of the Cajundome box office, while people waited in lines. Everyone wanted to see Acadiana's superstars

go all the way.

John Spoltore (#23), IceGator and part-time USL student, made his reappearance in time for the playoffs, having had to sit the regular

season out due to a knee injury and led the team to the final round of the Kelly Cup playoffs against the South Carolina Stingrays, the top scoring team in the league.

The Stingray/IceGator games were possibly

the best games of the season, with two talented teams pitted against each other.

In the end, the Stingrays were awarded the Kelly Cup, as fans cheered for their 'Gator players.





# SwampCats are ECHL Champions in First Year



Many first-year teams just hope to be competitive. They hope to win a few games, and if they are fortunate, consider a winning season to be somewhat of a blessing. Expecting to win a championship in a professional organization's first year, involves a little wishful thinking to say the least.

But not for the Lafayette SwampCats.



Before a crowd of more than 7,100 in the Cajundome, the SwampCats—after delighting crowds all summer with fast-paced soccer—won the first-ever Eastern Indoor Soccer League Championship game with a 12-9 win over the Baton Rouge Bombers.

In the championship game, Scott Yerby, Scott Huppe, and Diego Gordillo each scored a pair of goals to pace the SwampCats over Baton Rouge. Goalkeeper Tim Henson was steady in the net and kept the Bombers out of the net when it counted.

The SwampCats scored early as Scott Yerby headed a long bounce pass from Thomas Macbosen over the head of the Baton Rouge goalkeeper. That goal put Lafayette up 2-0 with just 20 seconds gone in the game.

Huppe's first goals put the SwampCats up 4-0 before Baton Rouge cut the lead to 4-3 on Coby Holt's 3-point, power-play goal. Another

goal by Yerby at the 16:55 mark, increased the lead to 6-3.

Baton Rouge again pulled to within a point as Brian Jillings scored his second goal of the game to bring the Bombers close at 8-7.

Two SwampCat scores increased the lead to 12-7 before Baton Rouge mounted yet another assault on the Lafayette lead. Steve Muccillio scored with just under three minutes left, but the SwampCats played tough defense, and the game ended as goalkeeper Henson covered the ball with seconds left in the game.

For the season, Scott Yerby lead the team with 54 points, Craig Rhodis finished the season with 50 points and was named EISL Defensive Player of the Year. Chuck Granade also finished the season as the top goalkeeper in the league.

A 19-5 win over the Bombers in Baton Rouge on August 29, secured the regular season title for the SwampCats who finished the year at 20-6, including playoff games.



A ten-point second period paced the SwampCats to the win. Yerby, Huppe, and Jim Moresi had two goals each for Lafayette.

In the semifinals, the SwampCats faced the Huntsville Fire. After Lafayette built a 10-3 lead after two periods, the Fire roared back to close to 12-11. Huppe scored three goals—a hat trick—in the game and helped the SwampCats to kill off two penalties and run out the clock to end the game.







# RAGIN'

CAJUN CHEERLEADERS -BACKBONE OF RAGIN' CAJUN SPIRIT.

**H**ARD WORK, DEDICATION, SWEAT, PAIN, AND PATIENCE. THESE ARE JUST A FEW WORDS THAT DESCRIBE WHAT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHWESTERN LOUISIANA CHEERLEADERS MUST HAVE IN ORDER TO MAKE IT THROUGH AN AVERAGE DAY.

ANY USL STUDENT CAN TRYOUT TO BE A CHEERLEADER. THE STUDENT MUST HAVE A GOOD GPA, TUMBLING ABILITY, AND MUST BE ABLE TO PICK UP NEW MOVES EASILY. AN INDIVIDUAL DOES NOT HAVE TO HAVE ANY CHEERLEADING EXPERIENCE TO TRY OUT FOR THE SQUAD. "TRYOUTS FOR VARSITY ARE HELD DURING THE SPRING, AND JUNIOR VARSITY TRYOUTS ARE HELD DURING THE FALL," SAID JESSICA ARABIE, CAPTAIN OF THE USL CHEERLEADERS.

THE CHEERLEADERS WENT TO CAMP THIS SUMMER AT ALABAMA STATE, AND DID VERY WELL. THEY TOOK HOME THE LEADERSHIP AWARD, MOST OUTSTANDING SQUAD AWARD, AND FIFTH PLACE IN THE FIGHT SONG COMPETITION.





# SPIRIT

## RAGIN' JAZZ - AMBASSADORS OF THE UNIVERSITY

USL'S RAGIN JAZZ DANCE TEAM IS EXPANDING ITS NUMBERS AS WELL AS ITS MUSICAL HORIZONS.

"THE GROUP TOTALED FIFTEEN MEMBERS IN THE PAST," SAID RAGIN JAZZ FACULTY ADVISOR AND USL'S ASSISTANT ATHLETIC DIRECTOR SHERRY LEBAS. "THERE WAS A LOT OF TALENT IN THE TRYOUTS THIS YEAR, SO WE ADDED FIVE MORE MEMBERS TO THE TEAM."

BECAUSE OF THIS INCREASE IN NUMBERS, A NEW CO-SECRETARY POSITION WAS CREATED TO HELP MANAGE THE TEAM, EXPLAINED LE BAS.


"WE NOW HAVE FOUR OFFICER POSITIONS," SHE ADDED. "OUR CAPTAIN IS BRANDY LASSEIGNE, THE CO-CAPTAIN IS TONI BLACK, AND WE HAVE TWO SECRETARIES, JAN THIBODEAUX AND KELLIE LE COMPTE. THEY PROVIDE GOOD LEADERSHIP FOR THE GROUP. BECAUSE OF MY OTHER ATHLETIC OBLIGATIONS, I AM NOT ALWAYS ABLE TO ATTEND ALL THE EVENTS THEY PERFORM AT, BUT EVERYTHING ALWAYS GOES SMOOTHLY. RAGIN JAZZ IS A SUCCESS BECAUSE OF THE TALENT AND DEDICATION OF THE STUDENTS."





(CONT'D FROM PAGE 56)

"TEAMWORK IS A HUGE PART OF ANY CHEER-LEADING SQUAD," ARABIE SAID. "I DO NOT LOOK AT US AS A TEAM THOUGH. I LOOK AT US AS A FAMILY. WE DO EVERYTHING TOGETHER, AND WE TRUST EACH OTHER EXTREMELY. I ONLY WISH THAT WE WOULD GET A LITTLE MORE RESPECT."

THE CHEERLEADERS ARE VERY IMPORTANT TO THE SPIRIT OF USL. THEY EXCITE THE CROWD, THE CROWD EXCITES THE PLAYERS, AND THIS LEADS TO A BETTER OVERALL GAME ATMOSPHERE. AN INDIVIDUAL COULD SAY THAT THE CHEERLEADERS ARE THE "BACKBONE" OF RAGIN' CAJUN SPIRIT. 





(CONT'D FROM PAGE 57)


THE RAGIN JAZZ ADVISOR WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT THE DANCE TEAM IS A SPIRIT ORGANIZATION JUST LIKE THE CHEERLEADERS AND THE BAND. "OUR PRIMARY FUNCTION IS PERFORMANCE AT HALF-TIME DURING FOOTBALL GAMES," SHE EMPHASIZED. "WE'RE THERE TO PROMOTE USL AND TO BE AMBASSADORS FOR THIS UNIVERSITY. WE ALSO PERFORM FOR OTHER SPORTING EVENTS AS WELL, DEPENDING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF THE TEAM. AS YOU CAN IMAGINE IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO COVER EVERY SPORTING EVENT, BUT WE FEEL THAT IT'S IMPORTANT FOR US TO DO AS MUCH AS WE CAN. WE'VE EVEN DISCUSSED JUST SHOWING UP TO SUPPORT SOME OF THE EVENTS THAT ARE NOT CONDUCTIVE TO OUR KIND OF PERFORMANCE, LIKE FOR EXAMPLE, JUST BEING THERE TO SUPPORT THE USL GOLF TEAM WHEN THEY ARE PLAYING." ACCORDING TO LEBAS, THIS YEAR THE RAGIN JAZZ WILL BE EXPERIMENTING WITH DIFFERENT MUSICAL GENRES AND ITS PERFORMANCES WILL NOT BE LIMITED TO ITS NAME, (JAZZ).

"AMONGST THE COLLEGE DANCE TEAM CIRCLES, WE ARE KNOWN AS A 'JAZZ TEAM'," SHE POINTED OUT. "WE ARE TRYING TO EXPAND OUR REPERTOIRE IN TERMS OF THE VARIETY OF MUSIC WE ARE DANCING TO. WHEN MAKING OUR SELECTIONS, WE TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS THAT FORM OUR AUDIENCE. WE HAVE THE OLDER ALUMNI POPULATION ON THE ONE HAND, FOR EXAMPLE, AND A YOUNGER STUDENT BODY ON THE OTHER. THE GIRLS ALSO HAVE THEIR OWN PERSONAL FAVORITES."

LEBAS STRESSED THE DEDICATION IT TAKES TO BE A RAGIN JAZZ MEMBER AND PRAISED ALL OF THE HARD-WORKING DANCERS.

"YOU HAVE TO BE A FULL TIME COLLEGE STUDENT AND BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN A CUMULATIVE AND/OR SEMESTER GPA OF A 2.0 OR BETTER," LEBAS SAID. "BUT MOST OF ALL, YOU REALLY HAVE TO BE COMMITTED TO WHAT RAGIN JAZZ STANDS FOR AND YOU HAVE TO BE WILLING TO GIVE A LOT OF YOUR TIME TO THE TEAM."

LEBAS, WHO HAS HAD VALUABLE EXPERIENCE TEACHING DANCE TEAMS, SINCE THE DAY OF USL'S "SWEETHEARTS", ONE OF THE FIRST DANCE TEAMS, SAYS SHE THOROUGHLY ENJOYS HER INTERACTIONS WITH THE RAGIN JAZZ STUDENTS.

"BEING AROUND YOUNG LADIES MAKES ME FEEL YOUNG," SHE CONCLUDED WITH A MISCHIEVOUS SMILE. 







The USL water ski team doesn't brag much, even though they have a lot to talk about. Over the past nine years, the team has built a quiet legacy of national success, a tradition that not many people have heard about.

In October, the water ski team won its second national title in the past three years. In a come-from-behind effort, the USL team was out of first place by 250 points after day one of the competition held in Joliet, Ill. After day two of the competition, USL trailed Northeast Louisiana by only 120 points.

On the final day of competition, the women's trick skiers finished first to put USL in the lead overall. Simon Siegert jumped 158 feet to claim the men's jump title, securing the overall National Championship for the Cajun skiers.

During the competition, skiers who place in the top five spots in each event (Jump, Slalom, and tricks) are named All Americans by the National Collegiate Water Ski Association. USL skiers named All

Americans were Angeliki Andriopoulou, Starlotte Smith, Sylia Stantidi, Charles Mueller, and Guillaume Paré.

The USL Water Ski program was started by Bob May, who coached the team for just over seven years and brought the team from a group of club sport athletes to national contenders.

His successor, Jim Davidson, has continued the squad's leap toward national recognition.

In 1995, the squad won the national championship. USL's first national championship in more than 30 years. That title was no fluke, however. Success has been brewing for the Cajuns since 1991 when they finished sixth in the nation. That ranking improved to third nationally in 1992 and 1993. In 1994, the squad climbed a notch in the national rankings, finishing second and won its national championship the next year. To honor the team, Nov. 17 was declared USL Water Ski Day in Lafayette.

In 1996, the team was again competitive, placing second in the nation behind Northeast Louisiana another national water skiing powerhouse.

# TAMING





Story: Matt Tarver Photos: Jason Kaliszewski

In March, USL defeated defending champion Northeast Louisiana during the Texas A&M Polar Bear Water Ski Tournament, beating the Indians by 530 points.

At the Polar Bear Tournament, Patrick Gaveau of USL secured first place in the men's jump with an effort of 163 feet. Fellow Ragin' Cajuns John McMath and Brandon Bucher finished first and second respectively in the men's slalom. Bucher placed second in trick skiing and McMath took third in tricks.

Triple-threat Maria Luisa Botero took second place in the slalom, tricks, and jump. Carey Selk-Rodger tied for third in jump. Starlotte Smith placed third in slalom, and Karen Marcelissen took third in tricks.

On May 17-18, USL hosted the National Collegiate Water Ski Association All-Star Tournament held at Airport Lake in Lafayette. About 70 schools in the U.S. have water ski teams that compete in six regions.

The top five skiers from each region in each event are invited to the All-Stars Tournament, although each school is limited to two skiers in

each event (jump, trick, slalom).

In the men's slalom event, competitors ski around six buoys and an exit gate using a 75-foot rope. Each time a skier completes the course without a fall, the rope is shortened by 15 feet, making it more difficult to navigate through the buoys.

The tricks event is the most creative part of the competition as skiers use one ski and execute as many tricks as possible in a 20-second period. Tricks include all kinds of twists, turns, and flips.

The jump competition is the most spectacular event as athletes travel over a ramp at more than 70 miles an hour and soar through the air before successfully landing on the water. The national college jump record is 177 feet.

Seven members of the USL team qualified for the event, which allows top-performing skiers to compete for individual national titles. Qualifiers from the USL women's team were: Starlotte Smith, Carey Selk-Rodger, and Maria Luisa Botero.

# WILD WATERS



It is usually a bad sign when a team has no Senior leadership on it. Normally, it makes, for a tough season with little success. Normally, a youthful team would be happy to just get to the point of being average. Well somebody forgot to tell the USL Golf team all of this.

Despite lacking any Senior leadership, the Cajun golfers captured their fifth Sun Belt Conference title in the last nine years. If that's not impressive enough, the golfers also earned their 8th trip to the NCAA tournament in the last nine years as well. What does former Sun Belt Conference and Louisiana coach of the year Bob Bass have to say about all of that? "Wow is all you can say," was his comment. And if you need a silver lining to surround the whole situation, it is that every one of the guys on last year's team will be returning for this season, along with some talented new Freshmen and a few returning redshirts from last season.

Leading the way last season were Junior Matt Trevino and Sophomore Greg Sonnier. They were both named to the All-Sun Belt and All-Louisiana teams for the past two seasons. Trevino finished last season with an average of 73.40 strokes per round. He led the way for the Cajuns in five different tournaments last year. In the NCAA Central Regional, Trevino placed in the top-25, following up a second place finish at the Regional the previous year.

Sonnier finished the 1996-97 campaign with four top-ten finishes. One of those came in the Sun Belt meet, helping the Cajun golfers to the SBC championship. Sonnier finished with an average strokes per round of 74.60. He was the top finisher for USL in four separate tournaments.

Another Cajun golfer who had a great season was Junior Brett Overman. Overman finished in a fifth place tie in the SBC meet. He was named, along with Trevino and Sonnier, to the All-Sun Belt Conference team. Overman finished his season in third place on the team for scoring average. Overman, Trevino, and Junior Trent Romero will enter the 1997-98 season as the only three Seniors on the team. They will be the first Seniors to play at USL in three years.

Two Freshmen also helped to lead the way for the Cajun golfers. George Cestia finished in the top-30 at the SBC meet, while finishing fifth on the team in scoring average. John Wise finished sixth in scoring. Wise also placed in the top 15 in the Louisiana Classics meet,

the USL tournament.

Couple the success of the current USL golfers along with the returns of redshirt team members John Mendall and Ty Weber, and the formula is right for 1997-98 to be another great season. Transfer Jeff Lorio from NLU, Ben Pyle, and Robbie Trahan will also look to make the upcoming season as productive as the last few have been. Coach Bass has to be excited about the success of his team. They have found the Fountain of Youth, and it has poured out a lot of exceptional golf. Hopefully, the well has not run dry just yet.

# GOLF

## USL team tears up the green!











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OUT OF

A HOLE

LADY CAJUNS

REACH

POST SEASON

FOR

FIRST TIME

IN SIX YEARS



Building on a five-game winning streak at the end of the 1996 season, the Lady Cajun volleyball team posted a 19-16 mark in 1997, the best record by the squad since 1990. The Lady Cajuns entered 1997 with hopes on improving on last year's 18-18 mark and had the task of replacing one of the nation's best players.

Gone from the squad was All-American Nia Kiggundu, who completed her eligibility in 1996 and served as a student assistant in 1997. Kiggundu finished her career with 2,227 kills and 2,043 digs (No.1 all-time in the NCAA). But second-year coach Laura Leaton had a team with depth and experience (one senior, eight juniors, and two sophomores).

After winning their first match of the year 3-1 over Ole Miss at the Southern Mississippi Tournament, the Lady Cajuns went into a tailspin, losing four matches in a row to Southern Miss, Cal St. Fullerton, Texas Christian, and Sam Houston State. From there, the season was a roller coaster ride as the wins and losses came in streaks and spurts. In early September, USL defeated Alabama-Birmingham and Lamar to post a 3-4 overall record. Two losses in the Texas Tech Tournament were followed by seven consecutive wins as USL competed in the MSU Invitational. That tournament was the turning point of the year for the Cajuns as they won the tournament in undefeated fashion.

A 3-1 win over Mississippi State was the highlight of the tournament. In that match, sophomore Lafayette native Lisa Bordes set a school record for assists with 71. Junior All-Conference performer Gina Calejari had 30 kills and 27 digs for USL.

Just as things started to get on a roll, the Cajuns began a slide that saw them lose five of their next seven matches.





Particularly painful were back-to-back shutout losses (0-3) to McNeese State and Stephen F. Austin.

A match against Southeastern Louisiana began a four-game winning streak for USL as they defeated Arkansas State (3-1), Western Kentucky (3-0), and Texas Southern (3-0) in addition to the Lions of Southeastern.

"A fifth game with rally scoring really tells who the best team is," Leaton said after the win over SLU.

On Oct. 31, USL faced Arkansas Little Rock in a tough battle and lost a close match 2-3.

"Everybody played together as a team. There's really not one player I can think of that did not step up," Leaton said after the close loss.

A 3-1 win over Louisiana Tech was followed by consecutive losses to McNeese State and UNO.

The Lady Cajuns rebounded to end the season as they defeated Memphis 3-0 and Arkansas State 3-2 to finish the regular season at 19-15.

"We played together as a team and had fun, which is something we have trouble with because we're so intense," said Leaton.

The Lady Cajuns qualified for the post season Sun Belt Tournament in which only the top six teams participate. USL entered with high hopes, but a 1-3 loss to Arkansas Little Rock in the Sun Belt Tournament ended the Lady Cajuns season.







But with only one departing senior and a wealth of talented, seasoned players returning for 1998, Coach Leaton is hoping to make a habit of reaching the post season.

"I think looking back at the season and seeing who has beaten who and the uncertainty of who's going to come out ahead, the final six teams are so close in skill," Leaton said. Several players received honors for their efforts in 1997. Junior outside hitter Gina Calegari was named to the All-Sun Belt Conference Volleyball Team. She entered the post season tournament ranked third in the nation with a 4.62 average in digs per game. She also ranked eighth in the conference in kills with 3.36 per game. Calegari led USL in kills (404) and digs (549) and had 52 total blocks. She ranks fourth in USL history for digs in a season.

Kendra Bradford tallied 171 kills and 284 digs on the year. The junior from Baton Rouge set a Sun Belt postseason record for most service aces in a five-game match (4).

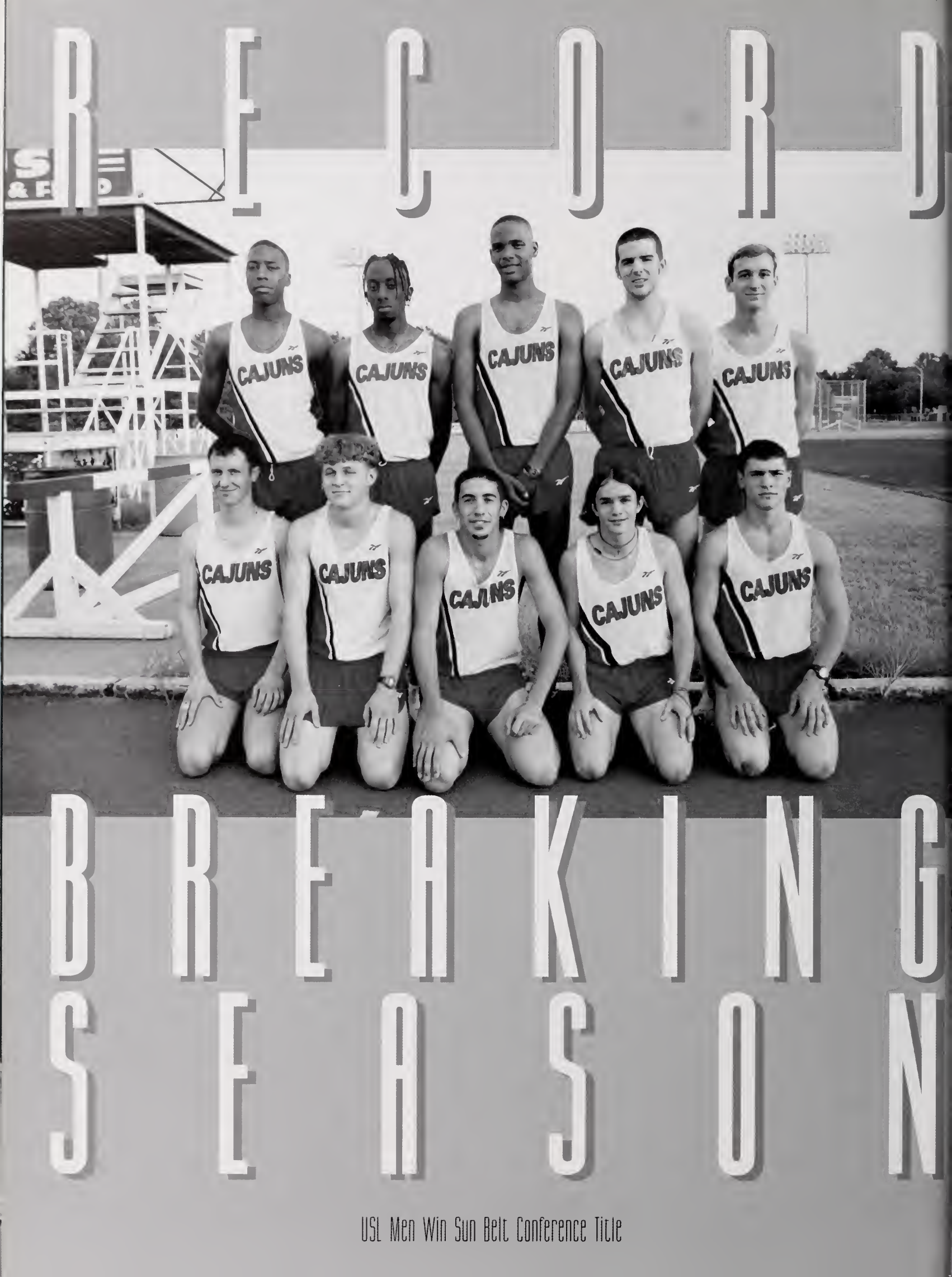
Heather Wehmeyer finished the year second on the team with 355 kills and 419 digs. She had 20 kills against TCU and 21 against Mississippi State. Jean Herron, a middle blocker from Michigan, had 239 kills and 37 blocked shots. She also tallied double digits in kills eight times.

Jen Swalley, a senior middle blocker from Phoenix, earned Sun Belt Conference all-tournament honors with 20 kills against Arkansas State. She led USL to its first SBC postseason appearance in six years. Had 15 double-doubles on the year. Lisa Bordes finished the season with 1,340 assists, the second-highest mark in USL history. The sophomore from Lafayette also had 97 kills and 251 digs and managed 27 service aces and 49 blocks. She was a candidate for Newcomer of the Year.

M







RECORD

BREAKING  
SEASON

USL Men Win Sun Belt Conference Title





USL men's track and field team had an impressive year winning a Sun Belt Conference title and having two members qualify for the NCAA Indoor Championships. Overall, the team strived for personal bests and teamwork throughout the season.

However, it is the team performance that is most pleasing to Cajun head coach Charles Lancon. "We're going to be in a war and we need some really big efforts," Lancon said.

Leading the pack was Walter Landry, who earned a spot in USL track history this season. Finishing ninth in the men's triple jump competition at the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, Landry earned his fourth All-American honor. He is only the third person in USL's history to do this.

"There's no question that he's very quietly had an outstanding career, and he's done a great job," Lancon said.

Landry also placed first in the triple jump with a 50'-8" effort at the Southwestern Relays and made his third trip to the NCAA Indoor championships.

Teammate Ketric Patton made his first trip to the Indoor Championships this year in the high jump. He was tied for 12th entering the meet. He also placed first in the high jump in the Sun Belt Indoor Championships and fourth at the SBC Outdoors.

"It's always anybody's meet," said Lancon, "but we got some really great efforts from our guys in the field."

Brandon Poncliff had a good year, winning the pole vault with a 15'-0" jump at the Northwestern State University invitational and a win in pole vaulting with a 15'-6" clearance in the SBC Indoor Championships.

James Boyd had a season-best 160'-6" effort in discus, winning first in the NSU Invitational and second in the SBC Indoors.

Also at the SBC Indoor Championships, Parker Allemen won the 35-pound weight throw with a Sun Belt record of 49'-6.25" with teammate Anthony Clement finishing third at 46'-5.75". Walter Landry, who placed second in the triple jump, third in the long jump, and fifth in the high jump, did yeoman duty for the team, according to USL assistant coach Tommy Badon. "Walter was a bright spot for us," said Badon.

The relay team of Chad Lynch, Marlon Dechausay, Ronnie Porche, and Miguel Ortega ran a 41.6 second race to take the 4x100-meter relay at the Southwestern Relays.


Lynch, Ortega, Ron McBride and Dechausay ran the 4x100-meter relay, winning first with a time of 41.49 in the Louisiana Classics. Colin McDaniel outlasted the field in the 5000-meter with his time of 16 minutes, 53.61 seconds.

"I really like to anchor," Ortega said. "I'm more comfortable with myself and with the team."

Ortega had earlier won the 100-meter dash after being left in the blocks. "I should have come out quicker in the 100," Ortega said. "My reaction time was bad, but I had a good time in the end."

Teammate Dechausay won the 200-meter with a time of 10.76 and was on the winning 4x400 team along with McBride, Jerry Simien, and Gene Siner, who also won the 800-meter run. Siner also placed first in the 800-meter race with a season and career best of 1:50.31 at the Louisiana State University Alumni Gold Relays.

Even the coaches got in on the winning action. At the Louisiana Classics, USL assistant coach Tim Lemaire won the 3000-meter steeplechase in 10:04.

"We couldn't be happier with the way everyone performed," said Coach Lancon, "We had some really strong meets this year, and had an awful lot of personal bests." 





# ON TRACK

CHALLENGING  
PERSONAL  
BESTS





The Lady Cajuns track and field team set records and hit their marks this season. With a great relay and jump squad, the team went on to win a SBC title.

Cecilia Noel gave a first place effort in the triple jump at the LSU Alumni Gold Relays. Finishing with a 40'-11 1/2" effort, Noel led a one-two-three-five finish for the lady Cajuns, with Tanisha Wolfe second in 38'-11 3/4," Leslie Davis third in 38'-10 3/4," and Morene Beckford fifth in 38'-0 1/4."

"We've got a good jump group this year," said assistant coach Tommy Badon, "and we expect to see a great deal out of them."

The 4x400-meter relay squad finished second with a season-best of 3 minutes, 43.88 seconds, while the 4x100 team ran third with a 45.46 second season-best. Michelle Ohorro also turned in a NCAA provisional qualifying time of 11.56, finishing third in the 100-meter and set a school record of 14.28 in the 100-meter hurdles, finishing fourth in the event. Michelle Nelson came in sixth with a 55.34 in the 400-meter, just missing the school record by four-hundredths of a second.

"We just ran really well and this is a good confidence builder for us for the next few weeks," said head coach Charles Lancon.

Indeed, it was a confidence builder, when at the Drake Relays, the 4x100-meter relay squad, which consisted of Candace Dixon, Michelle Ohorro, Kaaren Bell, and Beverly Langley, finished second with a season best of 45.05 and jumped into the national top 15.

The school record came from Danielle Payne with a 17:48.60 time in the 5000-meter run. The Lady Cajuns also took individual places with Ohorro finishing third and Langley finishing fifth in the 100-meter event and Leslie Davis taking eighth place in the long jump.

Cecilia Noel was one of USL's top three finishers in the triple jump at the Louisiana Classics. "I'm trying to get consistent with my run," said Noel, who was unhappy with her indoor season. She, along with Tanisha Wolfe and Beckford, swept the triple jump and established new personal bests.

"We push each other and compliment each other," said Beckford. "It's good for all of us."

At the Southwestern Relays, Noel set a meet record of 40'-11" in the triple jump. Davis, Bell, Nelson and Ohorro were victorious in the 4x100

relay. "It was a little more pressure," Ohorro said, "but I ran out there to win and I run with confidence."

Earlier, Ohorro topped all comers in the 100-meter hurdles, Davis won the long jump with a leap of 18'-8 3/4", and Bell won the 100-meter dash in 12.09.

Lady Cajuns came in second at the Sun Belt Conference Indoor Championships. "You hope and you pray, but... I thought the women would be closer," said Badon. And close they did come.

Beckford set a new SBC record in the triple jump, winning at 40' and placing second in the 55 hurdles at 8.37 seconds. Teammate Wolfe, was third in the triple jump at 38'-3.75" and Davis fourth with a personal best at 38'-1.25".

Langley won the 200-meter dash in 24.78, second in the 55 with a 7.10 time and ran on the 4x400 relay team. The victorious relay team consisting of Langley, Frazier, Ohorro, and Sheroni Walker, posted a season-best of 3 minutes, 50.23 seconds.


Walker also placed third in the 800-meter with a school record of 2:16.16, while Kami Miller placed fourth in the 20-pound weight throw and Cleo Jones set a school record of 18:20.98 in the 5000 meters, placing eleventh.

"We had a legitimate chance with a break here or there, but UARL ran awesome," Badon said. University of Arkansas-Little Rock topped the Lady Cajuns by a 119.25-91.25 tally.

It was a different story at the SBC Outdoor Championships. After the first day, Davis came through with a surprise victory with a 19'7" effort in the long jump. Sophia Forde and Wolfe finished third and fourth in the high jump, while Wolfe was sixth in the heptathlon, posting a school record of 4071 total points.

Miller was fourth in the discus with 129'-2" and Payne running fourth in the 3000 meter. Ohorro was the second-leading qualifier in the hurdles, the top qualifier in the 100-meter dash, and second in the 200 meter, behind teammate Langley.

"We're way ahead of where we thought we'd be and if we do what we should do we'll be in good shape," said Lancon.

And in good shape they were, running away with the league crown in the second day of competition. 



USL head tennis coach Dan Holden, the 1994 Louisiana coach of the year and member of the All-Louisiana team in 1996 wanted his team to get better. "You don't get any better by playing patsy teams," was the feeling of the coach before the start of the 1997 season. The men's tennis team compiled a deceiving record of 8-17, playing against 19 nationally-ranked teams. 22 of the Cajun's opponents were at some point ranked over the course of the season.

The NCAA recognized the strength of the men's schedule by awarding them with their second straight Regional appearance in the NCAA men's tennis championships. Unfortunately, the Cajuns, the sixth-seeded team, were bounced out in the first round Of the Region VI tournament by the third-seeded Horned Frogs of TCU in Fort Worth, Texas.

The Cajun men were seeded second in the Sun Belt Conference tournament. They made it to the finals, but they had to settle for second place as they were beaten in the finals by SBC powerhouse South Alabama.

Individually, the Cajuns show a lot of promise for the future. Rafael Fontes and Ricardo Diniz, the most experienced members of the team, both only Sophomores, were named to the All-Louisiana team. Fontes was a member of the first team while Diniz made the second team. Joining Diniz on the second team was Freshman Michal Jordan. Fontes and Diniz were both on the All-Louisiana team in their freshmen year. Both were members of the second team in '96.

# POISED FOR NEXT SEASON





Fontes also qualified for the NCAA Singles Championships, becoming the second Cajun in as many years to do so. He was beaten in the first round by Mississippi's Sebastian DeChaunac. Fontes put together a record of 14-10 in singles action during the regular season.


Michal Jordan finished the spring campaign with a record of 14-5, winning eight matches in a row at one point and finished with the highest winning percentage for the team in singles competition. When playing at the number four position, Jordan was 13-2 on the season. Ricardo Diniz completed his season with a record of 13-8.

Other men's Cajun tennis players include: David Rodriguez, Ray Rigamonti, Gareth Keating, Oscar Subirats, and Marc Harris. Assisting Holden with the coaching duties was Ryan Fitzwilliam.

With a team comprised of Sophomores and Freshmen, the outlook for coach Holden and the men's tennis team is very good. The team's opponents have helped them to improve, and the team has already started to sign new recruits for next season. In May, the team received a letter of intent to play tennis from Bernard Kaczorowski, a top prospect from Poland.



Holden says that Kaczorowski's size and serve remind him of Michal Jordan. While in Poland, Kaczorowski was a five time Polish juniors champion and earned a ranking of 1050 in the world by the ATP. Holden feels that he can come in and play in one of the top three positions for the team next season.

Holden feels the team has grown up a lot over the last season. After playing such a tough schedule with a young group of talented players, the team should be set for next season. Hopefully, next season holds the third straight appearance in the NCAA Tournament for the men's tennis team, another appearance in the Sun Belt Conference Tournament, and Cajun representatives in the NCAA singles tournament for the third straight season. 



There is a relatively new sports cliché that says, "There's no I in team." Well, that may not be the case for the Women's tennis team. Their season proved that there may not be an I in team, but there definitely is a "me."

The USL Lady Cajun Tennis Team's record for the 1997 spring season may be a bit deceiving at first glance. The team, led into action by head coach Dan Holden, finished the spring with a record of 5-13. They came in fourth in the Sun Belt Conference and also placed fourth in the conference tournament. Much of this was due in part to problems with injuries to key players over the course of the season. However, most of the season's bright spots for Coach Holden and his Lady Cajuns were not the play of the team, but the play of certain individuals who stepped up to have career seasons for themselves.

Through two tournaments in the fall season, the Lady Cajuns had posted a total singles record of 16-26, and a doubles record of 8-12. Individually, the team is led in singles action by Julia Mertins who posted a record so far of 6-4 in the fall. On the doubles side, it is the combination of Mertins and Anna Persson leading the way with a record of 3-1.

# PLAGUED WITH INJURY






The major standout individually in the spring was Mertins, who had a record setting season. Mertins was named to the All-Louisiana second team, and to the All-Sun Belt Team as well. Her spring record of 14-2, was the best on the team. Her winning percentage of .875 ranks fifth in school history. Her season got off to a great start with a 12 match winning-streak. Her 42 career victories at the end of the spring ranked her eighth on USL's All-time singles victories list.

Another individual who played well in the spring was Freshman Anzela Zguna. Zguna, playing in the number 1 position for the team, finished the season with a record of 11-7. She recorded one win over a ranked opponent, and three of the seven losses came in three-set decisions over nationally ranked opponents.

Lady Cajun Katya Antropova had a successful season on the court, but her season was riddled with problems with her health that kept her out of some key matches in the number 3 position. Through two tournaments in the fall, Antropova has a record of 4-3. 2 of the 3 losses were by default.

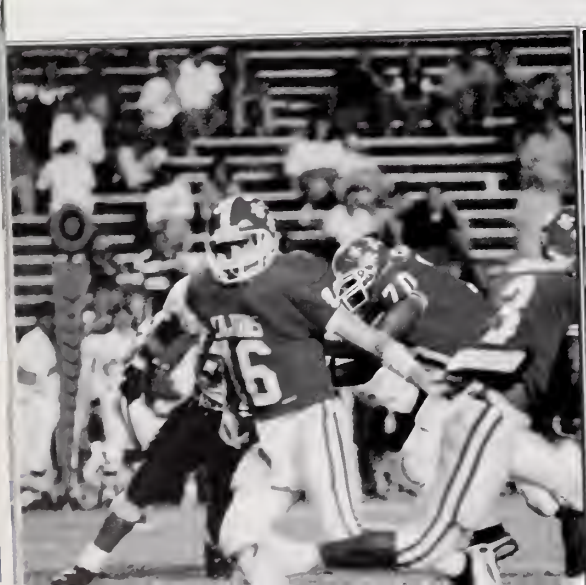


While the trio of Mertins, Zguna, and Antropova continue to lead the team through the rest of the 1997 season into the spring of 98, other team members look to step up their game, and bring the Lady Cajuns to the top of their game. Some of these players include Persson, Maribeth Rivera, and Samantha Thomson. Mertins will hope to continue to move up the ranks of career wins. Zguna will look to fair well against nationally-ranked opponents again this season. Finally, Antropova will look to have a healthy Senior season for coach Holden and the rest of the Lady Cajun squad. 



# DAIRY SEASON

**CAJUNS FALL TO RECORD SETTING LOWS**









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Before the start of the 1997 football season, many USL fans were asking themselves "How would the Cajuns fare without Jake Delhomme? Who would be the one to replace USL's all-time passing leader?" Fans also pondered "Could Brandon Stokley carry the load left behind?" and "Could the defense step up and support what seemed to be a down year for the offense?"



It didn't take long for all of these questions to be answered. The Cajuns finished the season with a record of 1-10, the team's worst since 1973 when USL finished the season at 0-10. In the process of losing ten games, the Cajuns managed to set an NCAA record for most points allowed in a season, 553. They were also shut out twice and lost one game by 70 points. Few players stepped up on either side of the ball, and injuries to key players plagued the Cajuns throughout the season.



A season that began with a lot of questions being asked ended with even more uncertainties for the future for a team whose morale might have sunk to a new low. In the first game of the season, USL faced a Pittsburgh Panther squad that also had a lot of questions to be answered. Head coach Nelson Stokley came into the game 2-9 in season openers and left 2-10. Pittsburgh took advantage of key mishaps and the lack of experience of the Cajuns, and turned what appeared to be a close game at the half into a 45-13 rout.

USL junior quarterback Brian Soignier misfired on all of his eight passes in the first half. His replacement, Sophomore Barton Folse threw the first attempt of his career into the hands of Mark Buford for a 17-yard touchdown pass. Desmond Williams blocked a punt in the first quarter, but the offense could do nothing with it, settling for a 32-yard Jeremy Deach field goal. Deach also added a 34-yarder to pull the Cajuns to within 17-13 at the half. Later in the game, Folse threw a pair of interceptions in the fourth quarter to help Pittsburgh blow the game open.

In the second contest of the season, the Oklahoma State Cowboys came to Cajun Field for USL's home opener. Once again, the Cajuns handed the game over to the opposition on a silver platter in the form of turnovers and mistakes. Behind 217 yards from Jamal Fobbs of New Orleans, Oklahoma State ran all over the Cajun defense. USL was down 23-0 at the half and made it to the end zone only once, late in the fourth quarter. Barton Folse found Anthony Dozier who then plowed his way for a 34-yard touchdown, but by then, the game was already decided. The loss left the Cajuns at 0-2 with even tougher opponents on the schedule.



The next game pitted USL against the Red Raiders of Texas Tech. Tech didn't need to take advantage of mistakes thanks to a porous Cajun defense that allowed 369 yards and 45 points in the first half alone. Tech scored the first seven times they had the ball on the way to a 59-14 breeze of a win.

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Elvis Joseph ran for a 49-yard touchdown early in the game to make the score 14-7, but that would be as close as USL would come. Texas Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge set a new Raider record, accounting for five touchdowns, all in the first half. Late in the game, USL scored on Folwell's 19-yard offering to Brandon Stokley, but by then, the contest was no longer in question. USL fell to 0-3 on the season with a revenge-minded Texas A&M squad up next.

Texas A&M had an entire year to reflect on the 29-22 shocking that the Cajuns put on them in 1996 in the Swamp, and it showed on the playing field. The Aggies crushed the Cajuns 66-0 to gain their revenge in front of a crowd of 61,081 in College Station. If that wasn't bad enough, standout junior receiver Brandon Stokley went down to a season-ending knee injury late in the game. The Aggies took advantage of six Cajun fumbles and two interceptions, building up a 45-0 halftime lead and never looked back. The loss dropped the Cajuns to 0-4.



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Following up the high point of the season was what might be the lowest point USL fell to during the year. The Cajuns were beaten at home by the Division II North Alabama Lions in a game that didn't want to end. USL fell to UNA 48-42 in four overtimes. It was UNA's first game against a Division I-A team since 1959.

The score was tied at 27 at the end of regulation. USL used a series of pass interference penalties to keep the score tied. After 3 overtimes, the score was 42-42 and the Cajuns were up first. Lance Domec threw an interception and UNA's Greg Manson ran 20 yards up the middle to win it for the Lions. USL was left dazed at 1-6 on the year.

The Cajuns returned home to face Alabama Birmingham, but did not fare much better than they had on the road. The Blazers beat up on the Cajuns with the final score 42-7. UAB amassed 405 rushing yards as they ran through, around, and over USL defenders. The lone Cajun score came on Baron Rogers' 30-yard scamper that did nothing more than prevent a second-straight shutout. USL was 0-5 for the first time since 1991 when they had lost their first seven games.

The one bright spot of the season came on the road against the Arkansas State Indians. The Cajun offense finally ran on all cylinders. Eric Lindsey rushed for 171 yards on 30 carries, and Lance Domec, a redshirt freshman quarterback, threw for 212 yards while completing 17 of 20 attempts. In this game, USL had scored as many points as they had in their first four games combined. Sullivan Turner accounted for three of the Cajun touchdowns. The Cajuns needed all of the offense it had to hold off late ASU rallies and hang on for their first win of the season by a final of 41-38.



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**N**ext on the slate for the Cajuns was Homecoming against the NLU Indians. USL became the first school in NCAA history to play in two consecutive overtime games. Unfortunately, they also became the first to lose two overtime games in a row. USL led 21-7 at the half before NLU surged back in the second half to force overtime, where they came through and won it.

**U**SL had a chance to go for the win with 41 seconds and the ball on the Indians 7 yard line.

Barton Folsie rolled out and, instead of throwing the ball away, he tried to hit a well covered Marcus Wilridge, but was intercepted, giving NLU the ball and the momentum it needed to finish off the Cajuns in overtime.

The final three games of the season were against three of the top offenses in the country.

**T**he first of these was the newly rejuvenated Tulane Green Wave who made their first trip ever to the Swamp. USL greeted the visitors with gifts in the form of 7 turnovers as the Cajuns were shut out for the second time 56-0. USL finished the game with 29 rushes for only a single yard, while the Wave piled up 323 ground yards. Tulane was up 36-0 at the half, and played a "conservative" fourth quarter to prevent further embarrassment. The loss put USL at 1-8 on the season. The next game saw USL travel to Pullman, Washington to take on 16th-ranked Washington State. The Cougars outgained the Cajuns 588-152, and scored early and often with the final score 77-7. USL could do nothing to stop the lethal Cougar offense, and managed a touchdown late in the third when Eric Lindsey ran it in from 12-yards out.

**I**f Texas A&M's revenge wasn't bad enough, USL faced a Louisiana Tech team looking for an at-large bowl bid. LA Tech took advantage of a depleted Cajun squad, leading 35-0 after one period and 42-10 at the half. USL managed to score some late touchdowns on the Bulldog reserves. James Clement scored from a yard out, and Sullivan Turner caught a three yard pass from Lance Domec to ease the blow at the end of the game.

LA Tech avenged 4 straight losses to USL in a major way, amassing 639 yards of total offense.

**A**ll in all, there were few things to get excited about during the season. Elvis Joseph led the team in rushing with 532 yards. Franco Smith led the receiving corp with 28 catches for 404 yards and 2 touchdowns. Kicker Jeremy Deach was the leading scorer with 30 points. Chris Shaw averaged a hefty 42.8 yards a kick and punted 65 times. The team was outscored by an average of 50-16 on the year. The Cajuns averaged 288.7 yards per game while their opponents averaged 475.7. 🏈



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# MASON & DELHOMME IMMORTALIZED

On February 22, during the halftime of a Ragin' Cajun basketball game, USL honored two of the best football players in the university's history by retiring their jersey numbers. A ceremony was held to celebrate the careers of record-breaking quarterback Jake Delhomme and speedy, tough-tackling cornerback Damon Mason.

Delhomme, a native of Breaux Bridge and a graduate of Teurlings Catholic High, threw for more yards than any other player in Louisiana college history as a Ragin' Cajun. He set school records with 9,216 yards and 64 career touchdown passes and holds numerous other school records for his passing prowess. He started 43 straight games as quarterback and finished 22nd in NCAA career passing yards. Delhomme led USL to 25 wins in his career, including 18 come-from-behind victories. His number 12 was retired by the university.

Mason, a native of LaPlace, La., paced the Cajun defense in 1996. He is the USL all-time season leader for tackles by a defensive back with 135. He totaled 223 total tackles in two years at USL. In the Cajuns dramatic 29-22 win over nationally-ranked Texas A&M last fall, Mason punished the Aggie offense the entire game. He recorded two interceptions and returned one for a touchdown, forced two fumbles, had one sack, and made nine tackles. His number 9 will never be worn by another USL football player.

It is fitting that the duo was honored together. Mason was a leader on the field in 1996 as the Cajuns faced their toughest competition in the school's history. Delhomme and Mason were named the Offensive and Defensive Players of the Year on the national All-Independent Team for 1996.

The university will also celebrate the careers of Delhomme and Mason by painting their numbers on the stadium wall of the student side of Cajun Field. Delhomme and Mason are only the fourth and fifth Ragin Cajun, respectively, to have their jersey numbers retired.

Other Ragin Cajuns who have been bestowed this honor include: Glenn LaFleur (No. 28), a linebacker for USL from 1967-69; Brian Mitchell (No. 1), USL's quarterback from 1986-89; and Orlando Thomas (No. 42) a free safety from 1991-94.













# MASCOTS

Mascots have always played a part of collegiate pride, and mascots at the University of Southwestern Louisiana has been no exception. In fact, pride is the reason our mascot is the English bulldog.

In 1920, the football team adopted the name "Bulldogs" as a symbol of toughness and determination. The name stuck, but it was not until the 1938 season that the university (then called Southwestern Louisiana Institute) football team adopted an actual bulldog mascot.

The students named the first English bulldog after Coach George Mitchell. His nickname, and the name of the new mascot, was "Gee." Mitchell was a prominent figure on campus and had been the likely candidate for the head coach of the football team in the coming years. The name of the mascot has gone through many changes since World War II, including nicknames of "Babu," "Bumbright," and "GeeGee," when the university had a

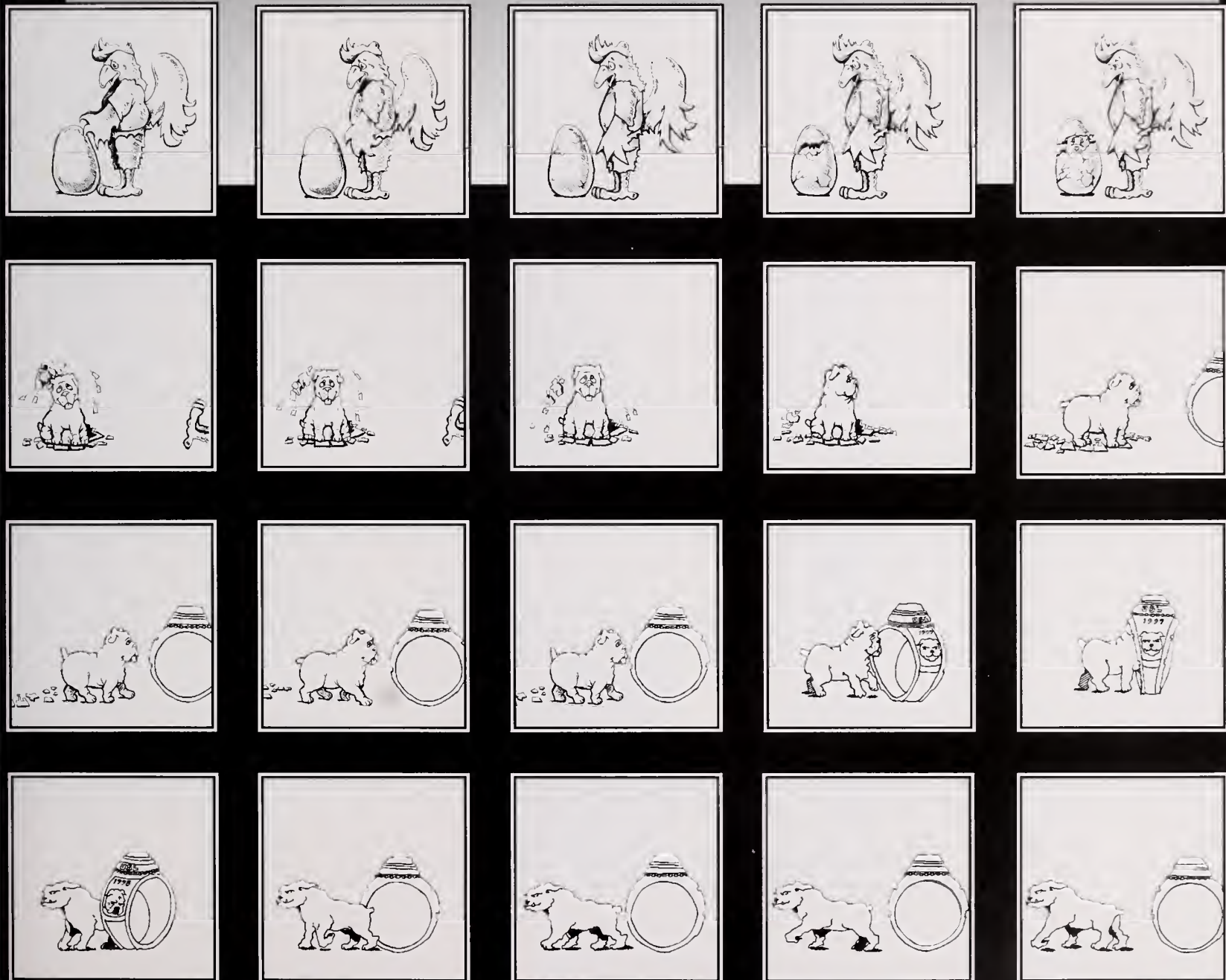




female mascot in 1965.

In 1973, William "Bill" Butts confronted the Student Government Association with the prospect of his becoming the University's first human mascot. He argued that keeping a live bulldog was inhumane and, putting on the costume of an English bulldog, stepped into history. This was not well recieved by the public, and the term "Bulldog" was later replaced by the "Ragin' Cajuns."

The year 1990 marked the return of the bulldog as the university's visual mascot. The first USL mascot of the 1990s—Ragin' Cajun passed away in 1996. His replacement—Red has patrolled the sidelines since.





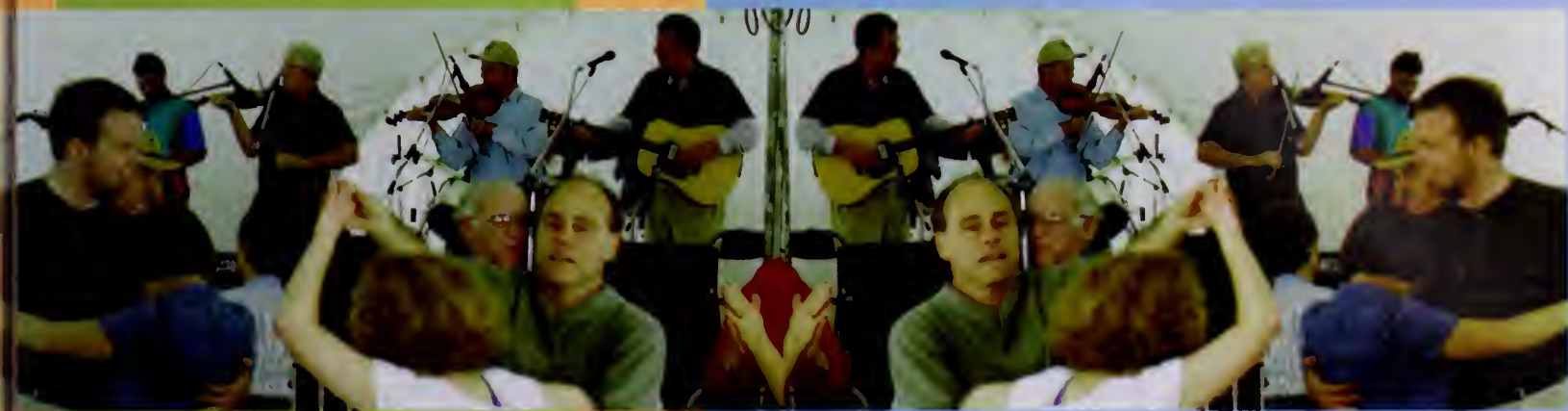
1997

FESTIVAL

INTERNATIONAL









# LAGNIAPPE DAY







**A**s the Spring semester wound down, April offered students a chance to relax one more time before finals with Lagniappe Week.

Lagniappe Week, sponsored by the Union Program Council, is open to all students and offers competitive sports, such as volleyball and canoe races in the Swamp, as well as a party atmosphere.

Lagniappe Day, an open party to all USL students, is the conclusion to Lagniappe Week, with all the necessities of a good party: beer, bands, disk jockeys, beer, all you can eat crawfish, snowballs, beer, photo buttons, games and beer (for those of age, of course).

This year's Lagniappe Day offered USL students the chance to be a bowling ball, box, and possibly the most popular, sumo wrestling.







# 1997 mardi gras

Mardi Gras is held on Shrove Tuesday, which is the day before Lent begins. This holiday, therefore, depends on the day of Easter. The ancient Romans used to have a period of festivities before fasting. This is how Mardi Gras originated. "Mardi Gras" is a French term meaning "Fat Tuesday." This term arose from the custom of parading a fat ox through the streets of Paris on Shrove Tuesday.

French Colonists introduced Mardi Gras to America in the early 1700s. Since then, Mardi Gras has become a legal holiday in eight Louisiana parishes. It has spread through the southern states, but has become most popular in New Orleans, a city that attracts tourists from across the country. But nearly the entire south gets involved with festivities relating to Mardi Gras.

Street parades go on for a full week before Mardi Gras day. The Parades and other festivities are organized and paid for by societies called "krewes." The season is filled with fancy balls and private parties, floats moving along the streets with people wearing colorful masks and expensive dresses, and marching bands playing jazz music.









NEW ORLEANS  
**JAZZ FEST**









## •BAYOU BIJOU FILM SERIES•

Each and every Fall and Spring semester, USL students have an opportunity to broaden their cultural and intellectual horizons by watching films in the Bayou Bijou theater of the Student Union. It's the Bayou Bijou Film Series, and it's one of the most fascinating extra-curricular activities our university has to offer.

According to Michael Flaherty, Assistant Director of the Student Union, students should use their college experience as a window, opening their eyes to the world around them. Learning should not stop just at the academic level.

"The series is out there for everybody and anybody to take advantage of," Flaherty pointed out. "It's serious intellectual stimulation students can sink their teeth into, so to speak. It is an enhancement of college life. Viewers have a chance to debate ideas and issues generated by these movies. These films also fill a cultural gap in the Lafayette community."

Flaherty emphasized that the idea behind the series is to provide non-traditional films, not played in theaters, that have a certain thought-provoking character about them.

"Some of the messages in the movies may be very provocative," he added. "They may also have received interesting media attention or won certain prestigious awards. For example, the documentary 'When We Were Kings,' featured in the Fall 1997 series, won an Academy Award for Best Documentary in 1996." (A powerful drama featuring the 1994 world heavy weight championship fight in Zaire between

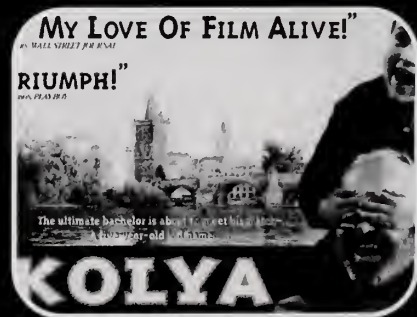
Muhammad Ali and George Foreman).

There's a lot of discussion in the media about the Academy Awards. It's such an old institution. It is interesting to debate how much influence it really has over the film-making industry. Another Academy Award winning film featured in the same series is "Kolya," which won Best Foreign Language Film in 1996. (A story of a friendship that develops between an aging Czech and an abandoned Russian boy. A comedy of selfishness and irony).

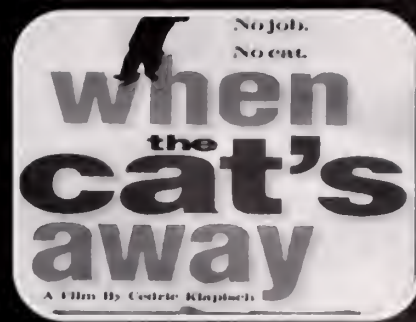
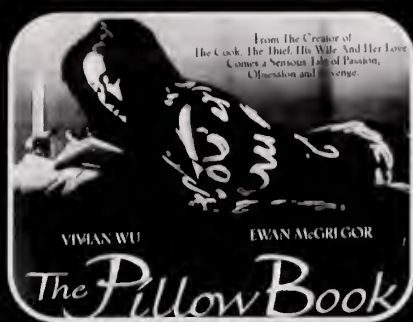
Flaherty explained that the series is put together by a devoted committee of eight faculty and staff members, headed by Megan Shaughnessy Farrell, Assistant Professor and Bibliographer of the Humanities and Social Sciences at Dupre Library.

"These people are sharp," Flaherty remarked with a smile. "They know about alternative, contemporary films. They read reviews and search for titles on computers. Many of them will even go see movies in other cities. Their spirit, involvement, knowledge, and humor is to be admired. The meetings I've attended have proved to be the most entertainment I've had in years. They manage to group certain alternative films together in a way that stimulates the creative, right side of your brain. There is a smooth flow between the films, it's like reading a book and going from one paragraph to the next."

"I have a lot of enthusiasm for the project," Farrell declared. "I have been promoting, organizing, and booking for seven years now. We have a committee that tries to keep up on the new films, to find titles that have some sort of







support shown for them. Previously, we've had themes based on specific foreign movie circuits, like a French Festival of films. But within the last five years, we've gotten away from that. We've tried to spread things out so all of our efforts are not concentrated in one area. Now, we have a more representative sampling of American independent and world cinema."

Farrell went on to explain that the film selecting committee is limited to ten films per semester, therefore the selection process is a difficult one.

"There are a zillion movies that one or two people may want to see," she added. "But we try to pick movies that many people would be interested in. There are a number of variables that come into play we ask ourselves the question has anyone heard of it and would anyone want to see it. We look at factors of appropriateness, of timeliness. For example, is the movie recent a recent one? A lot of our choices are based on availability. Can these films be played on our 16 mm system? Are they available on the dates we need them or have they been booked at a prior time? The committee members are not advisory members, they are working members. They all have a good work area, for example, the person doing the flyer has a good eye for design, the person doing the mailing list has to be well organized and be able to supervise bulk mailings and so on. Our members all have various talents. We have evolved into a group that works well together and gets things done."

Farrell also described recent trends in foreign movies. "You used to have an exclusive national German cinema or Russian cinema and most of

these movies were sub-titled," she emphasized. "Beginning in the 1990s, many European countries started collaborating and doing co-productions, most of them in English. The lines between Foreign and American independent films are blurring. As part of our Fall 97 series, we have three independent French films offered that we very proud of. My favorite is a light, breezy romantic comedy about a young Parisienne who is searching the city for her missing cat: "When the Cat's Away."

"La Promesse" explores the exploitation of illegal African laborers in the new European economy, and the "City of Lost Children," is an unsanitized fairy tale about a circus strongman and a street child out to rescue her little brother from a mad scientist. We also have an interesting documentary about the comeback of two Yiddish folk music stars, "Tickle in the Heart." This should attract a lot of attention because there is an interest in Lafayette for music from all around the world."

Other movies being shown in the Fall 97 series include: "Lost Highway," a horror story of murder and splintering psychological dysfunction; "The Pillow Book," a movie about an Asian fashion model with a fetish for skin calligraphy which interconnects sex and literature into a visually engaging poetry; "Love! Valor! Compassion!" portrays the enduring friendship of eight gay men; and "Small Faces," explores the gritty gang violence of working-class Scotland youth in 1968.

These movies play Mondays at 4 and 7 p.m. throughout the Fall and Spring semesters and are \$2 per feature for students with USL IDs and \$3 for non-students. 🍿





# 1997 SPRING FEST



USL SPRING  
SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 1997



BLVD CENTER

Photos: Tina White





# FAVORITE





# Festival ACADIENS



An Annual  
Celebration of  
Cajun Culture.

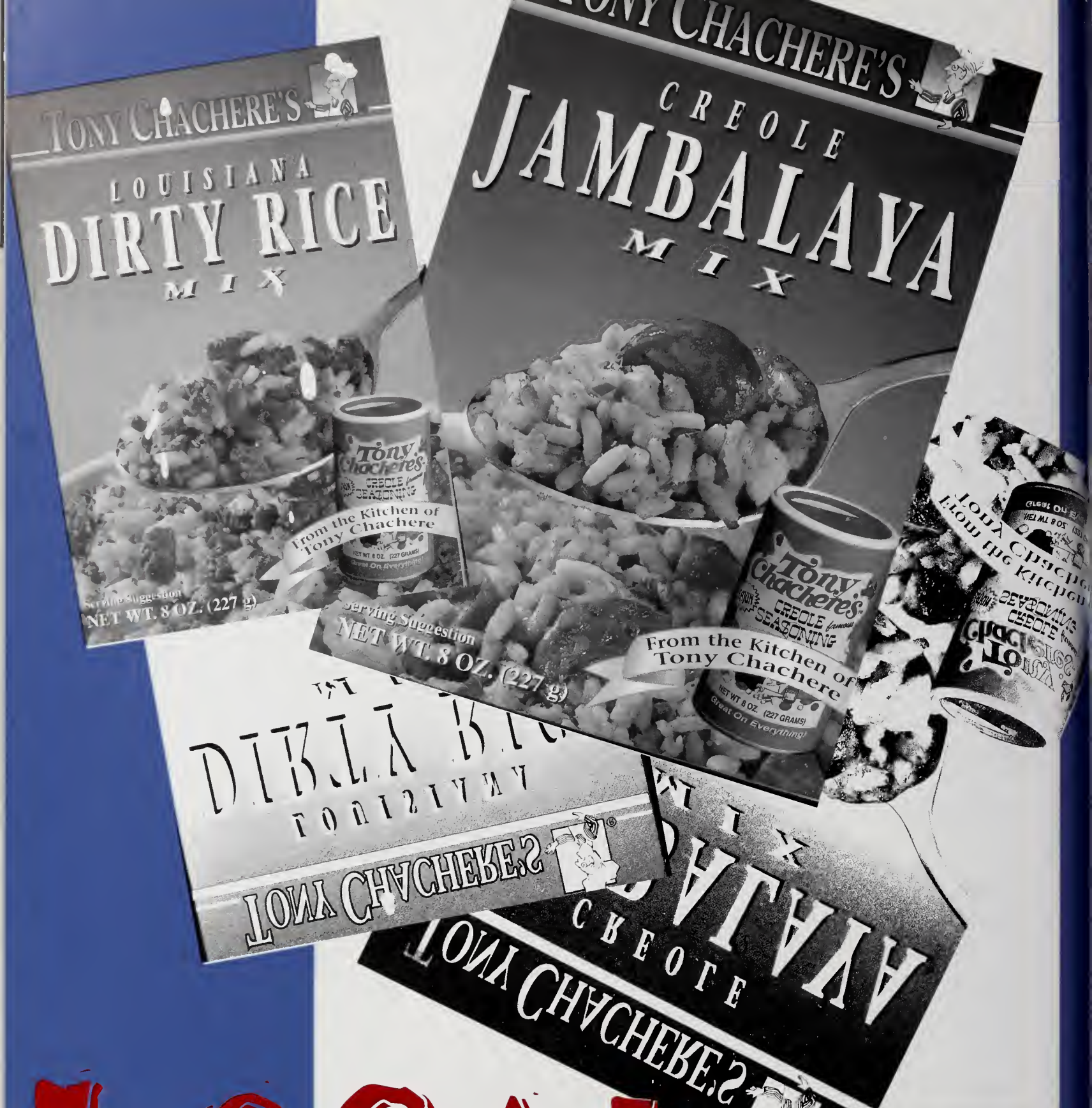
*drinking, dancing and eating*

(a lot)









**LOCAL  
FLAVOR**

**EVERY  
ISLAND**





# TABASCO

## COUNTRY STORE

Trademark



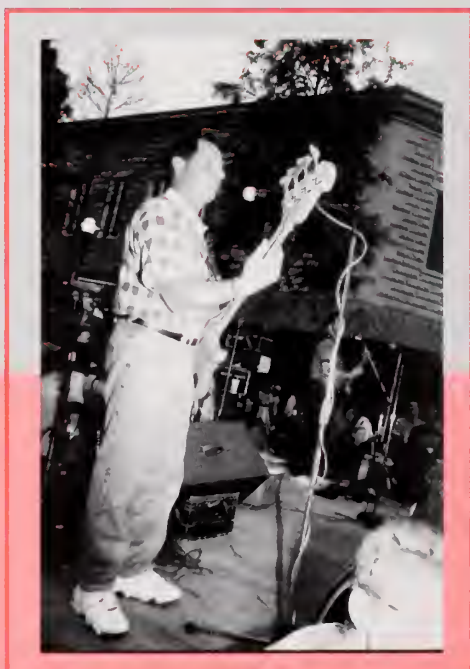


# Downtown ALIVE

1 9 9 7

**H**aving a good time with friends to drink and dancing in the street, is a tradition in southern Louisiana, a tradition which cannot be ignored even in the face of bad weather. In keeping with the indomitable Cajun spirit fanning the flames of festival, the final Downtown Alive of the spring season was held on a corner of Jefferson Street on the evening of Friday, July 1997 and featured the folksy, country-rock tunes of the Julianne Banks Band out of Austin, Texas.

Despite the overall mugginess and encroaching threat of rain, at least 400 people, including a small biker gang, turned out for the show. On this occasion, most of the audience was middle-aged, but a few of the girls wandering around were young and sported navel rings. The crowd seemed to consist of two main groups—those talking with friends over their plastic cups of beer and those actually listening to the music—but membership in both groups constantly fluctuated as more people got thirsty or realized their bar tab was getting too high.







As the pony-tailed Ms. Banks, wearing a short pink dress, bounced about the makeshift stage, she encouraged the audience to get out and dance by promising to distribute free CDs. As one wise guy whirled out into the dance area alone, she corrected her earlier statement with, "Couples only, please." Long-haired guitarist Nick Travis repeatedly implored the crowd to phone the radio station and request the band's songs. "All the stations play only one song," he lamented, looking pointedly at Planet Radio deejay Pat Man, as he said so.

Before long, three or four couples moved out onto the dance floor, one individual even bringing his beer along. Off to one side, a blue-haired old lady was doing the two-step. Not incidentally, she held a beer cup in one hand. In general, the more people drank, the more likely they were to start dancing. One little boy of about three, however, who was presumably not under the influence of alcohol, was equally uninhibited. He moved wildly about, playing air guitar, then doing something along the lines of slapping ants off his body. When he finished dancing, he went over to the large speakers and lay his hands on them to feel them vibrate. Later, he tugged on the rope holding up the Downtown Alive banner until his father appeared and hauled him away by the back of his shirt.

Announcer Dominic Johnson commented, "There's such a great music scene down here and a lot of people don't know it. The area is so rich with talent." Johnson, who has been announcing the event for three years, recommended the Julienne Banks Band to the Downtown Development Authority, which sponsors two annual seasons of Downtown Alive held on twelve consecutive Fridays.

According to events and marketing director Wayne Lejeune, the purpose of Downtown Alive is to bring attention to the downtown Lafayette area. "It's one thing to build businesses, but it's another to get people to check them out," Lejeune said. Many of the local clubs and restaurants draw in customers by promising more music after Downtown Alive ends at 8:30. One of the event's biggest draws is blues musician Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown. Another popular entertainer, Geno de la Foss, whose father helped initiate the Zydeco music movement and who began playing at the age of five, has also appeared at Downtown Alive. Vicki Peters, who gained fame in the 80's female band, The Bangles, played in the downtown area with the Continental Drifters. 🌀





# HOUSING HUMANITY



The Finished Product: The Habitat for Humanity House



Lucien Gastineau



Humanitarians



In Progress



Photos: Hollie Lagarde



Alternative places to shop are becoming more and more popular on college campuses throughout the United States. Due to the fact that college students usually buy their own clothes, (those back to school shopping trips with mom are over for most of us), these alternative shops carry everything a college student needs, except the high prices. And due to the proximity of the mall from USL, many students are finding that stores like Euphoria or the Goodwill have many items and prices that they are looking for.

Euphoria has everything from Levi's to body piercing to incense to tarot card readings. They are located on W. Congress and have items to furnish your apartment, or clothes to hang in your closet. They even have "shirt day" where you buy one shirt and get a second one free. You can't beat Euphoria's prices, location, and selection. For those who love used, one of a kind type fashion, Euphoria is a great place to start your looking.

At the Goodwill, you never know what you may find. From that Incredible Hulk shirt to mismatching pots and pans, the Goodwill is a great place to hunt for items. The great prices at the Goodwill are great, and they constantly have new merchandise almost daily. Many students find items like the game Pong, vinyl records, used radios, books, and framed art. You can really make your living area really unique and decorate it without shelling out a lot of cash.

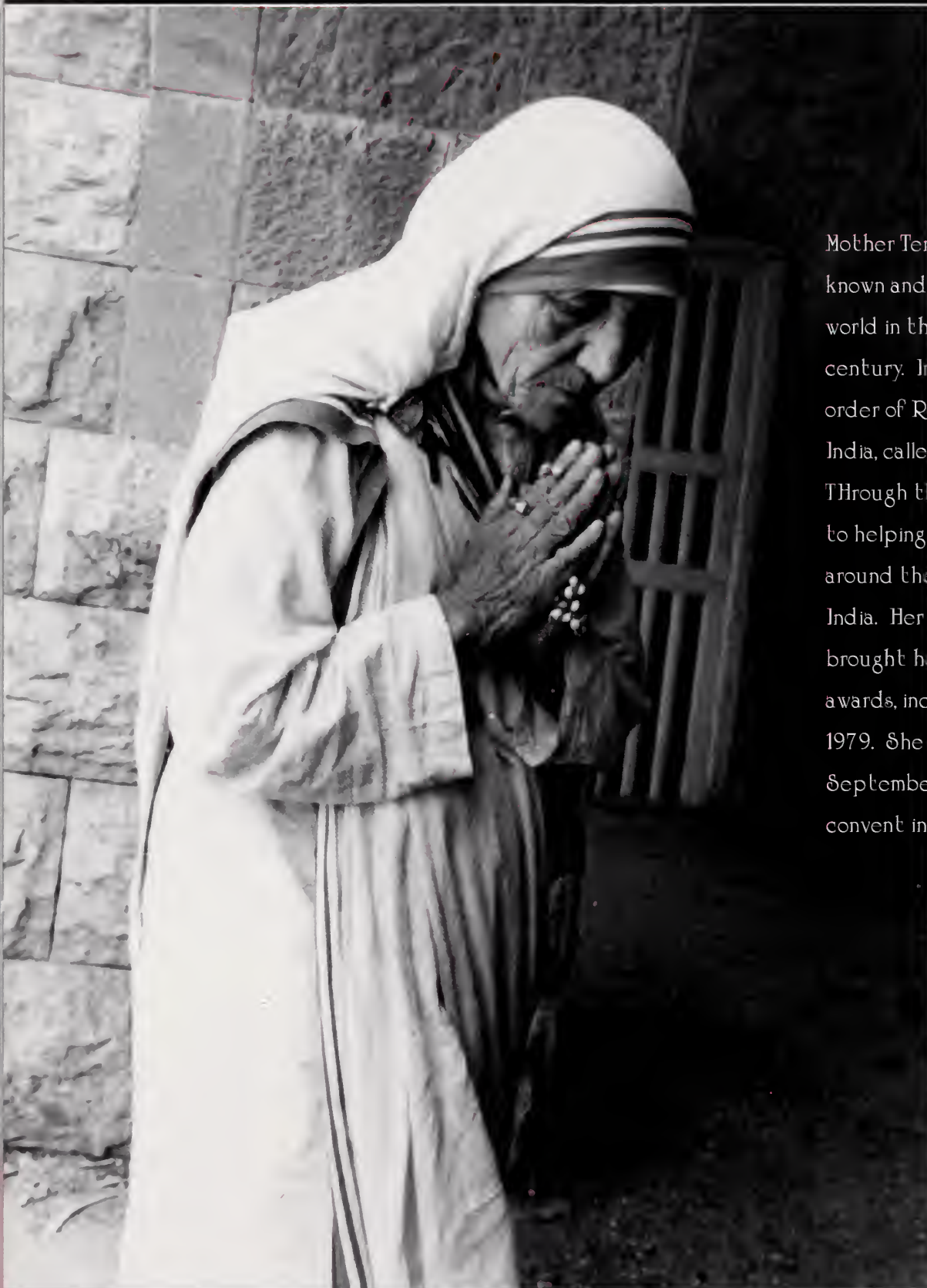


# Thrift shops





# - The News in 1997 -



Mother Teresa was among the most well-known and highly respected women in the world in the later half of the twentieth century. In 1948 she founded a religious order of Roman Catholic nuns in Calcutta, India, called the Missionaries of Charity. Through this order, she dedicated her life to helping the poor, the sick and the dying around the world, particularly those in India. Her selfless work with the needy brought her much acclaim and many awards, including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She died at the age of 87 on September 5, 1997 of heart failure at her convent in Calcutta.

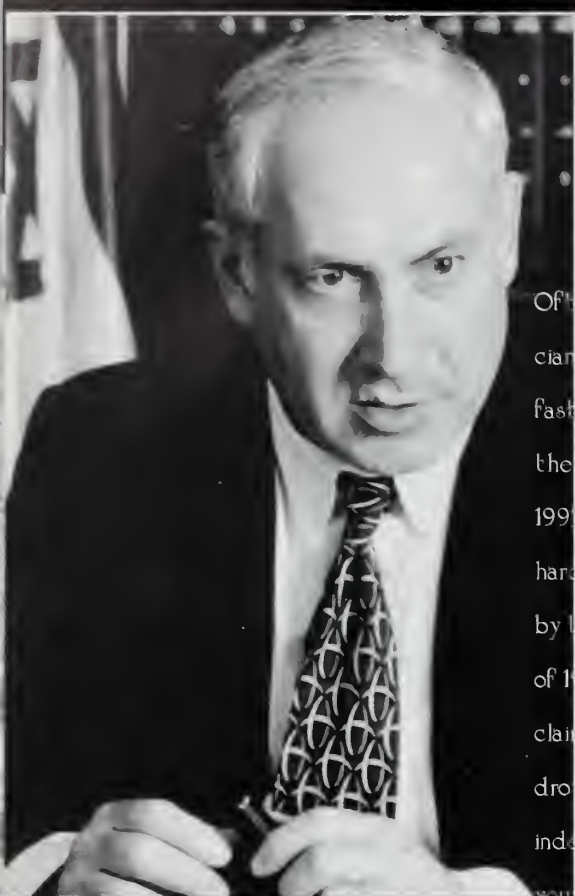




Britain and the world bid farewell to Diana, Princess of Wales, on a sparkling September morning with a grand tribute rich in pageantry. Since her death in a car crash in Paris a week before, The country had witnessed an astonishing outpouring of grief that forced a reclusive monarchy to join in the kind of full celebration of Diana's life that the millions of people who flooded into London demanded. Her sons, William, 15, and Harry, 12, stood in attendance, joined by their father, Prince Charles and her brother, Earl Spencer, as her body was taken into Westminster Abbey. Millions packed the cite for the funeral of Diana. It was a crowd unmatched since the end of World War II. More than a million bouquets by official court were stacked outside the royal palaces.







Often called Israel's first American-style politician, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu steadfastly rejected the land for peace bargain with the Palestinians, which was the backbone of the 1993 Oslo peace accords. In the wake of his hard-line stance, there were dozens of deaths by terrorism throughout Israel. In the summer of 1997, two suicide bombings in Jerusalem, claimed by the militant Muslim group Hamas, drove Netanyahu to halt peace proceedings indefinitely. At the age of 48, he was the youngest Israeli prime minister ever.



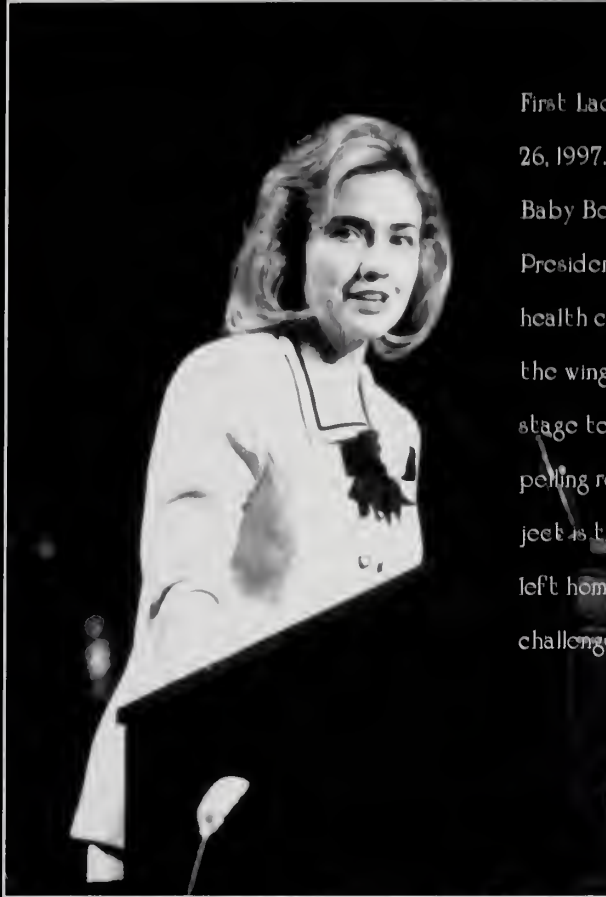
United States Secretary of State Madeline K.

Albright was the most visible and active secretary of state since Henry Kissinger. She was the highest ranking woman in the history of the U.S. government, and she was admired respected by diplomatic corps. Previously she served as President Clinton's ambassador to the United Nations and in foreign policy advisory positions for former President Jimmy Carter. The on-going troubles in the Middle East kept the 60 year old diplomat busy from the day she was sworn in to the top job at the State Department.

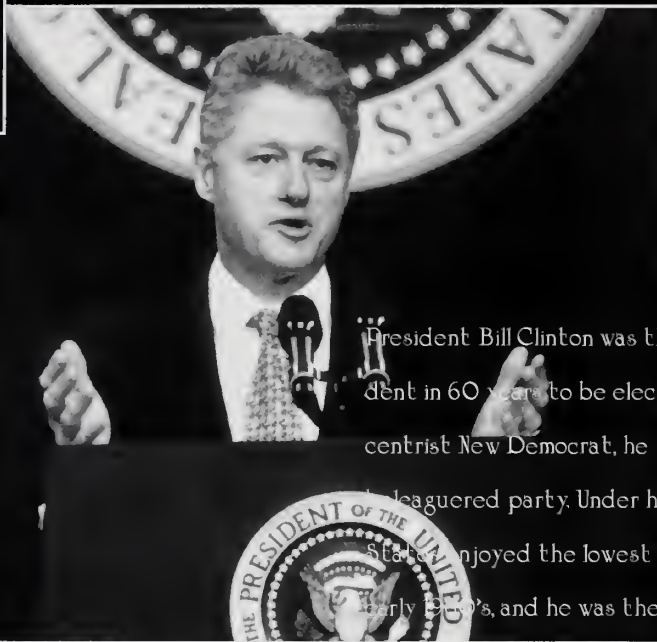


Yasser Arafat was chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization and president of the Palestinian National Authority. He was one of the key leaders in trying to maintain peace in the Middle East. His 1993 handshake of peace with Yitzhak Rabin promised mutual recognition between the Palestinians and the state of Israel. Under the agreement, Arafat assumed leadership of Arabs within Israel's occupied territories. The 68-year-old leader played a very important role in keeping peace in the Middle East.





First Lady Hillary Clinton turned 50 on October 26, 1997. She was the most famous of the female Baby Boomers. During her husband's first term as President, Hillary Clinton took a leading role in health care reform. Now, after nearly two years in the wings, she was quietly returning to center stage to begin a program on child care. One compelling reason for her to move on to the next project is the empty nest her daughter Chelsea had left home for college. She seemed ready for a new challenge and a new project.



President Bill Clinton was the first Democratic president in 60 years to be elected to a second term. A centrist New Democrat, he transformed his once beleaguered party. Under his presidency, the United States enjoyed the lowest rate of inflation since the early 1960's, and he was the first president in 17 years to submit a balanced budget to Congress. His vice president, Al Gore, was considered a very powerful vice president and was the president's closest adviser. The 49 year old Gore was considered a favorite for the Democratic presidential nomination in year 2000. However, a year after their re-election, both men were under close scrutiny for campaign finance violations.



The President's teenage daughter left home in September. Chelsea Clinton went off to college some 3,000 miles from home. The 18 year old National Scholarship finalist accepted an offer from Stanford University in Palo Alto, Calif. Choosing this palm-studded campus 30 miles south of San Francisco was a bit of a bold stroke for the first daughter. Friends saw it as a reflection of her eagerness to escape the White House "bubble," and shed the pressures of Washington life. Chelsea agonized between Stanford and Princeton right up to the weekend before she made her decision. Her Secret Service detail will try their best to make her stay as normal as possible.



# Music in 1997



"Tidal" is 10 timeless songs. This golden album by Fiona Apple spent more than a year on Billboard's best selling chart. "My album is called "Tidal" because all this success has hit me like a tidal wave, but also because tidal refers to ebbing and flowing and that's really what life is, a constant ebb and flow."

Fiona cut a demo tape while she was in Los Angeles to spend time with her father and to finish high school. Back home in New York, one of the demos fell into the hands of a friend who baby sat for a music industry executive. Fiona's friend gave the three song demo to the executive who then played it for producers Andrew Slate. The rest is history.





Despite comparisons with earlier groups like Menudo and New Kids on the Block, the Spice Girls have jumped into superstardom, grabbing the

adoration that comes with overnight worldwide fame. With only one album to their credit, the five young women took the world by storm with their saucy antics and innumerable shouts of "Girl Power." The five stars go by the names Geri, Mel B, Emma, Victoria, and Mel C. They got together in 1994 and cut their first single a year later. Their album "Spice" hit the charts in early 1997 and stayed all year.



Jewel began writing songs when she was 17. Now, at 23, she's a star. Her first album, "Pieces of You," was released in 1995 and became an instant hit, spending well over a year on the charts. She was raised in Alaska where she began performing at the age of 5. Her junior and senior years in high school were spent at the Interlochen Fine Arts Academy in Michigan. She then went to San Diego, which she now calls home. However, Jewel makes a point of maintaining a solid connection to her roots in Homer, Alaska—she carries a container of genuine Alaska dirt wherever she travels.



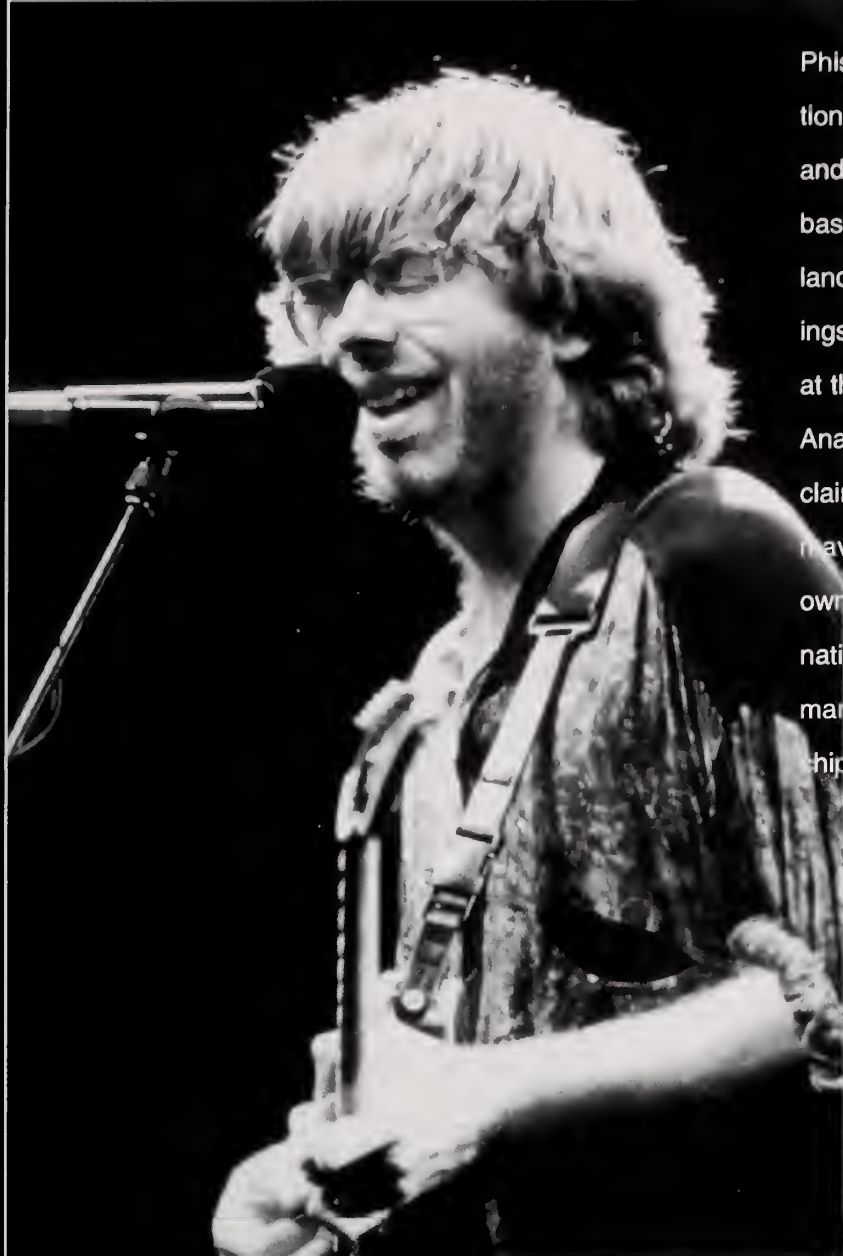


Country star Tim McGraw, whose last two albums—"Not A Minute Too Soon" and "All I Want"—sold a combined 7 million copies, built his career on a heartbreak ballad. In the two years since "All I Want" hit the charts, McGraw became a millionaire, married country music's Faith Hill, had a daughter and gained respect as a producer. His fourth album, "Everywhere", reflects these changes in his life. The hit album chronicles a man in transition.



The Verve Pipe is an incredible rock/pop/alternative band from East Lansing, Michigan. Their first single, "Photograph", received a lot of air time and became a fairly big hit. But its success cannot be compared to their latest single, "The Freshman." That song enjoyed time at Number One on the Billboard chart. The rest of the album, "Villians", contains an incredible mix of sounds. The Verve Pipe Carved their own niche in the music world.



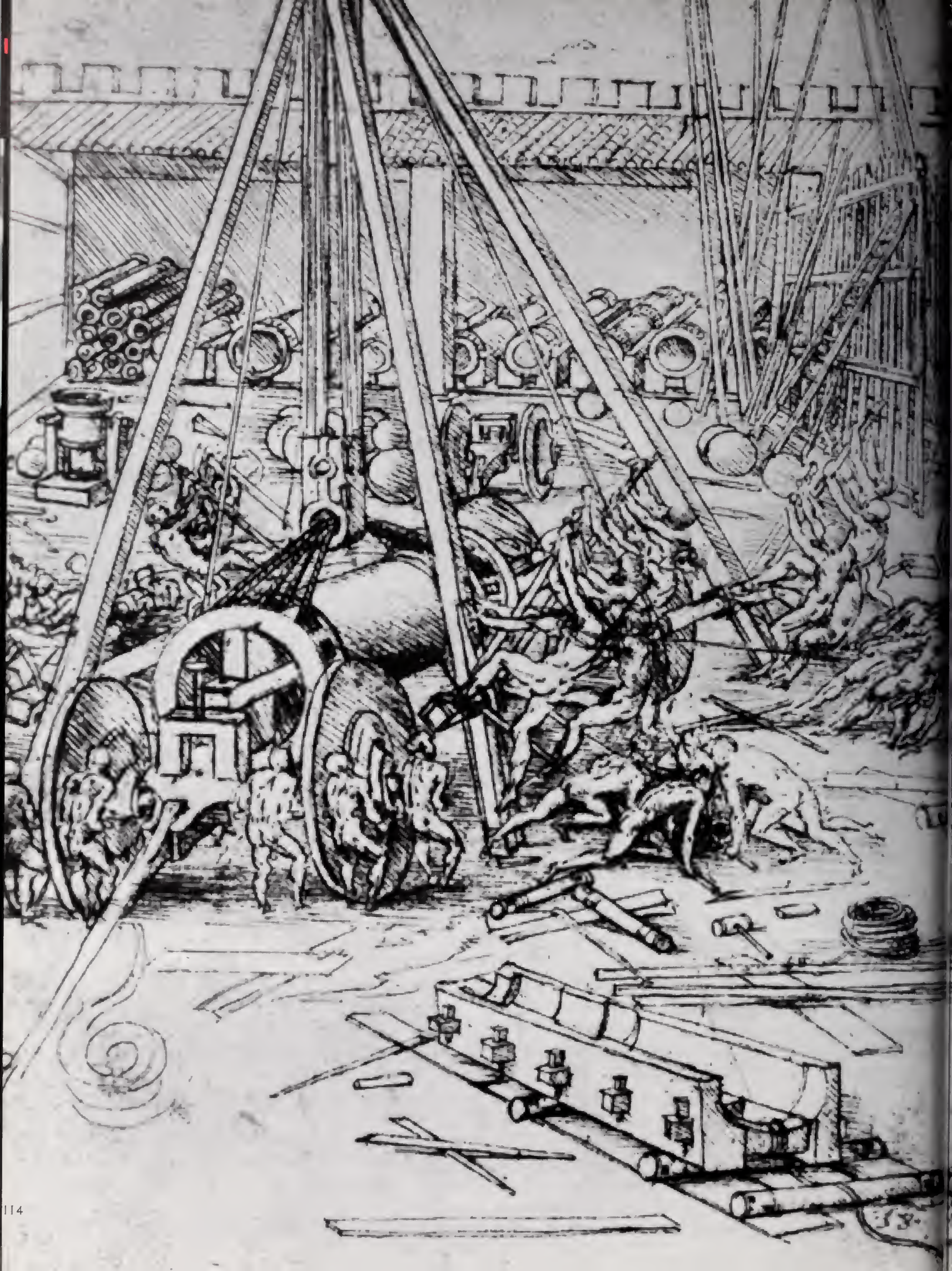


Phish has established an impressive reputation of tireless touring, dazzling improvisation and innovative rock and roll. And the Vermont based quartet is the reigning "jam" band in the land, boasting one of the most devoted followings in all of rock. The group was assembled at the University of Vermont by guitarists Trey Anastasio III and Jeff Holdsworth. One of their claims to fame was to have the ice cream makers Ben & Jerry honor the group with its own flavor—Phish Food, a tantalizing combination of milk chocolate ice cream, caramel, marshmallow swirls and fish shaped chocolate chips.



How did a trio of adolescent boys from America's heartland manage to hit stardom in the music world? By being young, cute, blonde and happy, the brothers Hanson became the newest kids on the pop charts. The band's infectious single "MMMBop" and their album "Middle of Nowhere" flooded the airwaves around the world. Isaac (16), Taylor (14), and Zac (11) grew up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. But success didn't come overnight. The youngsters dealt with their share of rejection slips before they were discovered in 1996 at the Kansas State Fair.







Gro S





# Who's Who

## Among Students in American Universities and Colleges 1998



Jeremy Christian Meaux



Taquilla Marie Barksdale



Anna Claire Hundley



Keri Elizabeth Viltz



Brandi Lynn Menard



Alicia Ann Bourque



Mary Demetrice Lemelle



Gárdon P. Guillory



Renée Nicole Zeringue





Edwina Elizabeth Morgan



Amanda Maria Belle Vice



Cary Guffey



Ayana Atiya Lain



Kayla Marie Babin



Amanda Beatrice Bernard



Alison Faye Kincel



Jennifer Chehardy





Allison Byrd Maclellan



Rusty Andrew Desormeaux



Keli Lynn Messer



Hollie Marie Lagarde



Kristy Alosio



Rebecca Diane Wilson



Tiffany Nicole Flot



Ted Charles Bundrick



Gregg Bradford Hamilton



Kathleen M. Pollard



Kimberly E. Norris



# Who's Who 1998



Donna Bayard



Holli Kathleen Yandle



Dawn Marie Howey



Jeanne Marie Toups



Barbara Spencer Washington



Tarrah Comeaux



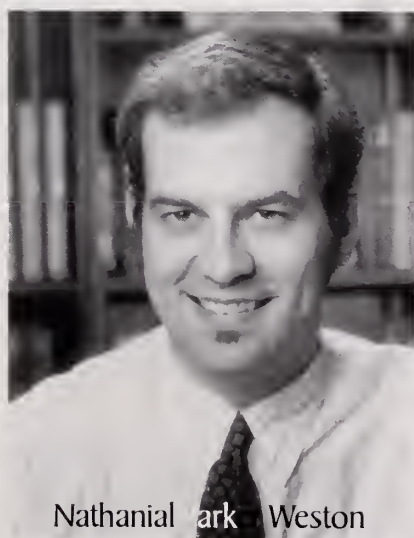
Joy L. Blanchard



Cosima K. Hasenstein



Amanda Kathleen Dobyns



Nathaniel Mark Weston



Emmanuel A. Adjo

No picture available:  
Amy Kathryn Brewer,  
Brian Matthew  
Soignier,



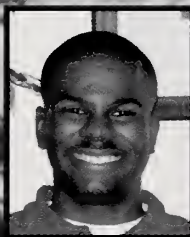


## STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

For the last five years or so, the Student Government Association at USL has been on the move. Perhaps this is due to the familiar faces that keep showing up in the forum each Monday night.

Isaiah Webster III (Liberal Arts) is serving his third term as a senator. Joy Blanchard is returning to serve as the President of the College of Education, and each of the Big Three are past senators or college presidents.

Experience may be the key to success, but then it may be the fresh faces that will lead the SGA this year. Who knows?



**CHRIS GRADNEY**

21 year old Chris Gradney is a management major from Port Barre, La. Past experience as College of Business President and Grievance committee chairman made him confident he "was capable of managing, leading, and assisting SGA towards a more successful governing body. With a genuine concern for USL students, I decided to represent them. I sincerely feel that I have something positive and beneficial to contribute."

Chris steps into past president Ted Daigle's shoes with a packed agenda. One thing I envision is for the students at USL to be able to not only recognize their senators by name or face, but to also confide in their abilities. I wish to acquire student pride towards the university - pride in their academic and personal achievements, of the campus, and athletics. My goal for each senator is for them to be forever mindful of their accountability to the students."

Upon assuming the position of president, Chris immediately picked up many projects in progress, as well as began several of his own. Already in progress were the Red Dot Program, Campus Clean-Up, Textbook rental programs, SGA representation on the Internet, Organization of the month, development of a student fee oversight committee, and aiding in "USL's transition towards selective admissions for the Fall 1998 semester."

To the student body:

"Students at USL are extremely unique. Our university is unique - we are predominately a commuter school, we have a swamp on campus, great hospitality, a diverse student body, and a candidness of coming together in USL pride.

I realize it is a challenging task to get involved on campus when there are so many other things going on around you. At USL, you can establish and maintain your identity as a student, and not merely a social security number. You are the heartbeat on this campus. I urge you to attain a full college experience. You can make your mark on campus and in life by getting involved at USL. Success without a meaning or purpose is meaningless. Have a purpose in everything you do!"





**RAVIS MARTINEZ**

Ravis Martinez had so much faith in Chris Gradney's VISION ticket that he ran on it himself. That faith later enabled him to fill a vacant seat as Vice-President of SGA.

A 23 year old accounting major from Houston, TX, Ravis made an impact at USL in a short time. Filling a vacancy as a College of Business senator in 1996, Ravis tackled the Finance Committee and subtly led SGA to another successful year.

Having suddenly taken the position, Ravis immediately had an agenda for his year as VP. "One of which is the formation of USL's Organizational Summit, which is an organization comprised with presidents or officers from all organizations and clubs which are registered with the university.

I wish to bring back USL's Free Speech Alley. I strongly feel that students who have something to say, whether it be fact or fiction, should have a platform to do it.

Student awareness is another goal I have. I plan on hosting a few creative things which I hope will help get more students involved in their college life here on campus. I see a need in getting involved in this university to change policy and guidelines which may in fact go against what the students want. I think that if students realize that they pay for all these services and personnel, and they are the deciding force in changing things to fit their needs, then in general, I think more students would in fact, do their part and GET INVOLVED!!"

Ravis would like to instate a mission statement, to let the student body know what the senate stands for, and help the senate by serving as a constant guide.

To the student body:

"Correct maps enable us to clearly see where we want to go and how to get there. We can make our decisions using the correct data that will make their implementation possible and meaningful. I see the student body as those maps, and Student Government as the vehicle and the map readers, if we as students get involved in creating these maps, then the job of the SGA will be just to follow the road which was drawn out and planned for us to follow - The Student's road. Don't just get involved - get Involved NOW!!"



**MARGUERITA AUGUILLARD**

Marguerita Auguillard, this year's SGA Treasurer, is a 21 year old Social Studies Education major from Breau Bridge. Having served a year as an Education senator, Marguerita felt competent to run on the Universal Generation ticket to "open the doors" for her future, as an elected official.

"Academics are the first thing on my list (of goals)." As well as "to do my job as treasurer, and to be a positive role model for others at school or in my community."

Marguerita has one basic goal for the senate in 1997: "To spend their money wisely!!"

Over the summer, Marguerita spent plenty of time in the SGA office, working to complete the estimated budget for the senate. She helped incoming freshmen with questions about USL, and told orientation groups different ways to get involved on campus.

To the student body:

"I'd like to thank the student body for elected me and I hope we have a successful year"



## College of Applied Life Science

Cynthia Williams  
not pictured: Terri Tharp



## College of the Arts

Amiee Barber and Sabrina Hamilton



## College of Business

Nioka Wilson, Carl Swan, Kim Cribb, and  
Ferris Wheeler



## College of Education

Jamie Robinson, Danielle Scott, Kimberly CBoudreaux,  
Joy Blanchard, and Alison Carlino



## College of Engineering

Terry Bean Jr., Leslie Chandler  
not pictured: Michelle Robert





## College of General Studies

Michelle Breaux, and Kathleen Polland



## College of the Liberal Arts

Anne Laughlin, Nikki Hamelton,  
Jeff Cole, Isaiah Webster III, and Maja Johnson



## College of Nursing

Kevin Cox, Shawn Hagan, and Elliot LeNormand



## College of sciences

Liza Granger, Scott Maciek, and  
Shondra Russ

not pictured: Chris Breaux



# Union Program Council





UPC stands for the Union Program Council. Anyone can join this organization. In UPC there is something for every one. Through nine committees they organize a variety of activities that all can enjoy. These nine committees are The African-American Culture Committee, The special events committee, The Entertainment Committee, The Homecoming committee, The Issues Committee, The Lagniappe Committee, The Public Relations Committee, The Spirit Committee, and The World Culture Committee. This organization is self governing. So if you are interested in getting involved the UPC office is on the second floor of the Student Union. Come and join one of these committees.

The African American Culture Committee(AACC) is one of UPC's committees. This section of UPC is basically to educate and enrich USL and Lafayette community about the African-American culture. This committee does several things, some of which are showing movies, having an African dance troop, holding an art show, putting on the gospel extravaganza, and inviting various speakers to come to educate all that chose to listen.

The Special Events Committee is very important to all the students at USL that want to party. They plan recreational programs like the drive in movie, Halloween events, Easter events, and the Kneve of Peux Mardi Gras parade. Their goal is to plan fun activities so that the students at USL can relax and have fun.

The Entertainment Committee is also vital to USL. This committee will offer all those who join the practical experiences of planning and promoting different events that take place here. They are responsible for sponsoring concerts, comedy shows, dances, and other fun things of that sort. People on this committee not only plan these events, but also have an opportunity to meet the stars.

The Homecoming Committee plans all of the events that take place during Homecoming week. Some of these events are Vell like Hell, bonfires, scavenger hunts, parties, and concerts. Those in this committee also work with the alumni, sponsors, and others while planning for one of the year's biggest events.

The Issues Committee helps to make people aware of important issues that are of campus, local, state and national importance. They are responsible for presenting educational programming to the students at USL, and plan such programs as Free Speech Alley, Aids Awareness, and Women's Week. The Issues Committee is said to be the committee of "Higher Learning".

If you always like a little something extra, you should be on the Lagniappe Committee. This Committee is responsible for planning Lagniappe Day. This is an afternoon that include games, and live music. This day also includes a little something extra, that is 10,000 pounds of boiled crawfish.

The Spirit Committee helps to promote the spirit of the USL students. They help to gain support for all campus athletics. The people of this committee organize such things as Ragin' Roar, pep rallies, and all the road trips to out of town games.

USL is a world unto itself, and many cultures exist in this world. That is where the World Culture Committee comes into play. This Committee helps one to learn customs, superstitions, music, beliefs, dance, and stories from other cultures. They plan and partake in such things like the International Flag Ceremony, Eyes Wide Open, and programs dealing with the local culture.

The Public Relations Committee promotes the activities of all the other Committees in UPC. They are also responsible for coordinating Welcome Week. The people who partake in this committee act as the go between for the campus and community media and the USL News Service Department.

story by: Kacy Watts







## STUDENT ORIENTATION STAFF

*Each Spring, applications are accepted for volunteer positions on the Student Orientation Staff, aka: the SOS. From the hundred or so that apply, this year, 32 students were selected on the basis of their knowledge about the campus, and outgoing personalities. The staff is formed with the idea of working as a team, so that each member has something to contribute to the group. SOS is as diverse an organization as USL's campus itself. The purpose of these volunteers is to lead orientations throughout the summer to the thousands of incoming freshmen and transfer students that come to USL each fall. The students on staff complete hundreds of hours of training about the university. Some of these orientations are overnight, and as most of these volunteers attend summer school, it is a true testament to how much these students value their school. The orientation staff is often the first real contact incoming students have with the USL community, and these volunteers should be saluted for their hard work and effort.*

story by: Kimberly C Boudreaux

### IN CLOCKWISE ORDER:

Doctor Dean Clarke, Heather Albritton, Tyron Anderson, Sherm Bernard, Kimberly Boudreaux, Chris Breaux, Krystal Broussard, Nicole Fabre, Chris Guillory, Kyla Guillory, Kaissy Hammer, Candace Hogan, Barbara Hood, Anna-Claire Hundley, Amy Landos, Michelle Marse, Travis Mose, Jamie Onellion, Shannon Sinegal, Tennia Stevenson, Jennifer Stoute, Laura Taylor, LaQuata Thomas, Angie Thomassae, Quinia Thompson, Tammara Trail, Neacy Turner, Ferris Wheeler, Walleen Williams, Heather Wilson, Jan Douglas, and Noika Wilson



# AmeriCorps: Crossing Boundaries to Serve

"United we stand, divided we fall." This seems to be the motto behind AmeriCorps. USL is privileged to have this special organization on campus. There are only three organizations like AmeriCorps in America. USL's AmeriCorps is the only one housed on a campus. AmeriCorps is a national organization that works with developing different areas around the country that are in need of assistance. AmeriCorps is a volunteer service organization that focuses on health issues, involvement, safety, and the education of individuals. The primary focus of USL's AmeriCorps is education.

AmeriCorps is made up of individuals from all races and ages. "We have members that are black, white, Hispanic, and so on. The ages of our members range from seventeen to 52," said Erin Butler, one of the heads of USL's AmeriCorps chapter. Nearly anyone can be a member of AmeriCorps. An applicant needs to meet the following criteria: a USL student, a minimum of a 2.0 GPA, and a United States citizen. "We then scan through the applications, and call the applicants in for an interview," Butler said. "Sometimes, we may only have 35 positions open, and we get 50 applications. However, we do pick up members throughout the year. We never throw an application away," Butler added. "We are looking for volunteers who want to do good and who want to break the boundaries of race or poverty in our society."

The USL AmeriCorps chapter was started by former USL Vice President of University Advancement Dr. E. Joseph Savoie and 18 members housed in a corner office of Martin Hall. It now has 55 members and has outgrown the Martin Hall office and is housed in DeClouet Hall.

"AmeriCorps does not want its members to have their eyes closed to the world. We want them to get out and explore. We want our team to go and spend time with that homeless man and not look at him as a homeless man but as a person," Butler added. This is one of the main goals of AmeriCorps.

A unique aspect of USL's AmeriCorps is that it is not supervised. "We have a great deal of trust in our members," Butler said. According to Butler, other AmeriCorps chapters are supervised in everything they do, and an individual can be a member for only two years.

"We want AmeriCorps to be stepping stone for other volunteer work. We want their work to carry on for generations," Butler said. An important part of the organization is that members do things as a team and not as individuals.

Each Monday afternoon, AmeriCorps members tutor students the Siemcoe Street housing development. "We want them to succeed in school," Butler said. "At first, they were a little reluctant to come to us, but when we got out there and got to know them, the neighborhood really opened up to us. AmeriCorps wanted to show them a whole new world. We think of it as our second home," Butler said.

AmeriCorps member Marguerita Augilliard works with junior high students, teaching them algebra in the park. "I love my work with AmeriCorps," she said. AmeriCorps also does service work with organizations such as The Well, Outreach, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, and others. "It is not uncommon for us to all load up a van and go and help as a team," Butler said.

"As a generation, we are labeled as 'X,' and we supposedly only care about ourselves," Butler added. "With our energetic group of members, we want to show others that we do care, and we want to get involved. AmeriCorps is not just about individuals helping out community; it is about a team of individuals that cross all types of boundaries to lend a helping hand to those who are in need."

story by: Laura Broussard



# Association of Future Alumni

According to Charles Weber, a Marketing Senior President of the Association of Future Alumni (AFA), one of the purposes of that organization is to help bridge the gap between alumni and students.

"We try to give students an opportunity to interact with alumni at university events," emphasized Weber. "For example, AFA students are welcome at the alumni tailgating tent at football games as well as to any Alumni Chapter events."

Weber further explained that the AFA, which belongs to the International Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), is also a chapter of the USL Alumni Association.

"Our organization is student run and modeled after the Alumni Council," he added. "The President of AFA sits on the Alumni Council and has a vote."

Lisa David, a Senior in Management, is the current AFA intern. She serves as a liaison between the Alumni Association and the student group.

"I was part of the founding group of students in the Spring of 1994," David recalls. "We established a focus group of students from various organizations and we tried to target what students needed the most. Our answer was networking. Students wanted contacts with alumni, professionals in their fields who could help them prepare for and better understand their future career. A year ago, we started an exciting extern program where a student could spend a day with an alumni working in their field. They're actually a colleague of that person for a day. Any AFA member can participate in this program, no matter what their classification is."

Carolyn Artall, Associate Director of Alumni Affairs and Faculty Advisor to the organization, underlined the beneficial outcomes of this program.

"One of our students, who was interested in becoming a doctor, had the opportunity to spend a day with a local surgeon, Dr. Dan Carroll, who also happens to be the past president of the Alumni Association," she pointed out. "This strengthened the student's desire to go to medical school. We had another student interested in Optometry who participated in the extern program and was able to work with Dr. Azar, a local Optometrist. Dr. Azar was kind enough to write that student a letter of recommendation for Optometry School. He even went so far as to hire the student full time."

"This Fall 1997 semester, we are implementing a new project called the Lunch Bunch," added David. "It's a mentor program where alumni come in and interact with students on a month to month basis in a relaxed, informal setting. We will first survey our members to see what careers they're interested in pursuing."

Weber, who was actively involved with Sigma Alpha Epsilon before becoming President of AFA, says that the group has a great growth potential.

"I'm an alumni of SAE and I held many offices with that fraternity," he stated. "This group has a real potential to expand and I feel that, because of the different positions I occupied in SAE, Treasurer and Fund Raiser Committee Chair, I can be an asset to AFA. This year our Executive Board is really fired up and plans to double our size before 1999."

Artall further explained that AFA welcomes students from any classification or major.

"We encourage diversity," she said. "We're trying to focus on public relations and promoting pride in USL. The whole idea is to instill pride in the students before they graduate. This semester, we put welcoming door hangers in all the residence halls to make the students feel welcome and encourage them to come visit the Alumni Center. The other spirit raiser we organized was sidewalk stenciling. You can have your house number painted on the sidewalk with the USL logo next to it. This increased our visibility and allowed USL fans to express their support."

story by: Jaleh Kazemi-Richard





Alpha Beta is USL's accounting honor fraternity that consists of only selected accounting majors. Goals of the organization include becoming a nationally recognized club (Beta Alpha Psi) and participating in the Volunteer Income Tax Association (VITA) project. Alpha Beta remains involved with the school by tutoring accounting students and helps the community by tabulating the MDA telethon.



Based in the College of Applied Life Sciences, Ambassadors is a service organization. Members visit area high schools and provide information about USL and CoALS.

# GROUPS

The Accounting Society is a professional campus organization which increases the knowledge of its members in the field of accounting by sponsoring lectures. This group offers a good way for accounting majors to meet one another and share information. The society provides information to members on courses to prepare themselves for the CPA exam.





AAFCS



The American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences bades in the human resources department. Members do community sevice projects each year, and complete fundraisers to send members to national and state conventions.

CIRCLE K



Circle K International is a service oriented organization. It is affiliated with Kiwanis and Key Club. Participating in conferences, holding meetings every Thursday, supporting the national service project, IDD, and involving themselves in other various campus and community events, Circle K allows students to experience leadership and friendship through service.

# GROUPS

CHI ALPHA



Chi Alpha is an organization whose motto is "Reconciling Students Through Christ". Activities such as weekly meetings in the Bayou Bijou, worship services every Wednesday with a free lunch, and other various events allow them to create a comfortable atmosphere for students to discover Christ through fellowship with others. It is affiliated with various churches in the community and is open to all denominations.





The USL College Republicans are extremely active within their party. The organization brings in speakers (former governor Buddy Roemer spoke this Fall), helps with campaigning, brings information to local high schools, and helps the community through fundraisers for their charity, MDA.



CoALS is the parent organization for all organizations within the College of Applied Life Sciences. They arrange college-wide activities and socials.

GROUPS



Members of the Communicative Disorders Honor Society are Amy Breaux, Angie Broussard, Shawn Butler (Treasurer), Christon Duhon, Monica Guarino, Tiffany Harmon (President), Tina Marks, Leah Odom, Rhonda Regouffre (Vice President), Jim Snyder, and Keri Viltz. Dr. Tom Rigo is the advisor.



The Criminal Justice Society is an academic organization that focuses on providing information pertaining to jobs and events within the Criminal Justice field.

Criminal Justice Society



# GROUPS

The USL Council on Family Relations, (CFR), is a campus organization that promotes awareness of family issues. It is a service-oriented organization open to all majors with no GPA requirements. Past activities for this academic year have included: visiting nursing homes, visiting and organizing activities for children at children shelters as well as taking children on field trips and organizing food drives for shelters. (No fees to join).

Council on Family Relations



Delta Sigma Pi is a fraternity for business majors. Like a fraternity, members must go through pledging, but this group is co-educational. They participate in community service activities such as St. Jude's Dream Home and social and professional activities. They also help out during campus events such as Career Day and Senior Day.

Delta Sigma Pi





Gamma Beta Phi is an honor fraternity here at USL.  
Membership is extended to all majors and certain  
requirements must be met for eligibility.

*GAMMA BETA PHI*



# GROUPS

*FOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE*



Members of the Food Service Committee are Marguerita Aguillard (SGA), Jason Begnaud, Jon Bertholot, Antony Billes, Tonya Carter, Mark Cowan (Union Cafeteria), Kevin Cox, Jerome Escuriex (Grouchos/ Catering), Chris Gradney (SGA), Leonard King (Conference Center), Ravis Martinez (SGA), Danielle Scott, Tara Smythe, Mark Stroud (Director), Dexter Turner, and Ed Wilcox.

*GENERAL STUDIES CLUB*



This club holds monthly meetings which feature various speakers who provide motivation to students interested in a self-designed curriculum. Members participate in fundraising activities to aid needy families in the Lafayette area. The organization also helps with Senior Day and Get on Board Day on campus. The General Studies Club provides scholarships to outstanding students in the general studies major.



The German club, composed of both students and German speaking Acadiana residents has unfortunately declined in size in recent years, but still holds an annual Christmas party and regularly shows German films or documentaries , most of which are subtitled in English. This year, German native Professor Hans Paffenholzen, from the University of Duisburg, worked to create an MBA program at USL for German exchange students trying to earn a degree at an American University.



GERMAN CLUB

# G R O U P S

HONORS BOARD



The Honors Program provides its members with educational opportunities made available with the use of weekly seminars and advanced courses. The Honors Board consists of a committee of these students picked by their peers to aid in activities such as scholarship testing and honors seminar programming.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY



The USL Geological Society is a university organization dedicated to the promotion of Geology. It is open to students of all majors in good academic standing and is currently composed of about 30 members. Students are exposed to the professional field through participation in business meetings and contact with geologists in the industry. Other activities include regular field trips and canoe trips.



Judo is the gentle way to use someone else's strength against them in a form of self-defense. The judo classes involve two white-belt and one intermediate course of training. From these classes, teams are formed, which participate in about six out-of-state tournaments. The judo club can be found practicing on an average of four times a week.

JUDO CLUB



ISO

The International Student Organization provides a place for International students to feel at home. They have an annual fashion show, showcasing food and attire of members' native lands. Weekly coffee hours are open to all USL students who would like to share in the fun, food, and games.

# GROUPS

This is a professional organization for education majors. The organization gives students a head start in a teaching career. Several conventions and workshops are held to give members information on teaching.

LAESP





Officers of the Love Alive Christian Fellowship are:

Emily Moore - President

Tammara Trail - Vice President

Cosalind Frank - Secretary

Delia Little - Treasurer

# GROUPS



The National Pan-Hellenic Council consists of several national organizations which offer a public service organization dedicated to a program of sharing membership skills and organizational services in the public interest.



The Newman Club is a recognized Catholic Organization based at USL's Wisdom Church. The group gathers for fun events, such as Homecoming, as well as worship and prayer.



S.P.E.A.K



S.P.E.A.K. stands for Society for the Promotion of Environmental Action and Knowledge, a volunteer organization. S.P.E.A.K.'s main goal is, through education and service, to bring environmental issues to the USL community. This club is involved in a number of regional and local activities, such as Lafayette Hazards waste day, a campus wide aluminum recycling program and Earth day activities every spring.

# G R O U P S

Omega Phi Alpha is not a Greek sorority, they are considered a national service club. They operate under three cardinal principles. These are friendship, leadership, and service. The last of the three is the most important. This year's president's project is illiteracy. The Omega Phi Alpha is open to anyone who wants to service her school and community.

Psi Chi is the National Honor Society for Psychology. This organization is mainly about encouraging behavior and other things that will help its members get into graduate school. The biggest event that this club puts on is Psychology Day. This is a day where speakers and social science students come to speak. Do not think that Psi Chi is all work and no play, the club also partakes in various social events such as BBQ's and the touring of different psychological facilities.

OMEGA PHI ALPHA



Psi Chi





This organization trains students to build and develop leadership skills and produces officers for the US Army, US Army Reserves, and US Army National Guard. Students are led by cadre active duty personnel with senior cadets, that hold the key leadership positions in the cadet chain of command. The ROTC cadets assist with activities on campus such as manning portals at games.



Sigma Tau Delta is an English honor society open to all liberal arts, education and journalism majors. The group gives members the chance to meet with professors on an informal basis and to present the students with knowledge about English and Literature not normally presented in the classroom.



# GROUPS

The Southwestern Association of Student Nurses is active in the Lafayette community and has increased its membership from only 40 members last year to 300. Members volunteer at the Lafayette Health Community Clinic and the Red Cross. In conjunction with the American Lung Association, members administer free flu shots to senior citizens in the community.



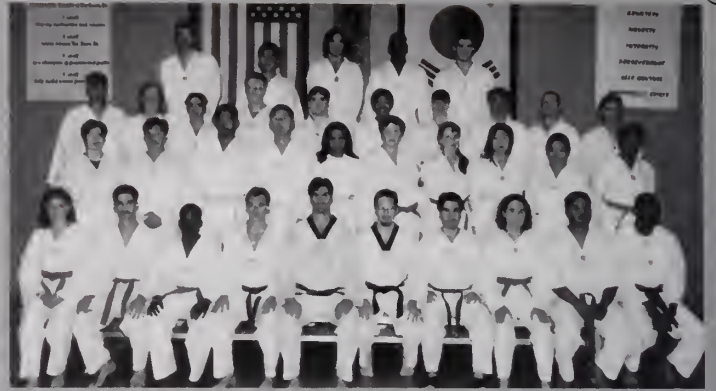


SHIMS



The Student Health Information Society's goal is to provide meaningful interaction among Health Information Management students at USL and other medical groups. It also helps to further their professional knowledge and effectiveness by interaction with Health Information Management personal and to promote greater enrollment into the Health Information program.

TAE KWON DO CLUB



This club is open to anyone who has taken a Taekwondo class at USL. It's an organization that allows students who share an interest in Tae Kwon Do to train and practice outside of class. The goal of the group is to promote the martial arts spirit which is to "improve the mind, body and spirit." There are no fees to join and the organization has about 70 current members.

# GROUPS

TAU BETA PHI







The Vermilion Honor Society's goal is recognizing and furthering students outstanding abilities in leadership and scholarship. It is open to everyone and it requires a 3.2 GPA, at least 45 credit hours, participation in an organization other than a Greek organization, and have at least one year remaining in school. They do many activities and service projects, including Faith House.



NSBE is one of the largest student organizations of its type in the country, established to help its members excel academically, succeed professionally and impact the community. NSBE educates its members through tutoring, group study sessions, mentor study groups, attendance of the national conference, and also through high school outreach programs.

# GROUPS





AIAS

The American Institute of Architecture Students is nationally based in Washington D.C. Through recruitment and conventions, the organization provides a way for architecture students to get to know each other. They have an annual Beaux Arts Ball and Crawfish Boil.

AMES

The American Mechanical Engineering Society's goal is to inform, represent, and benefit those students in the mechanical engineering field.

They hold meetings with speakers from various companies, which allows members to become aware of career opportunities. They also take field trips to corporations such as Intralox and attend regional meetings. AMES is also planning to send a newsletter to all its members to update them on the latest club news.

ASME

The Society for Mechanical Engineers is a recognized engineering organization at USL. It provides an opportunity for students in mechanical engineering to meet others in their field.

# G R O U P S

ALPHA ZETA

Alpha Zeta is an Honorary Professional Fraternity open to students majoring in Renewable Resources. It studies issues pertaining to Agriculture and Environmental Resources. Members have to be in the top 40% of their class, starting at the sophomore level, and are selected according to leadership, scholarship and fellowship skills. The organization is celebrating its 100th year Anniversary on November Seventh, 1997.

GRO

BAPTIST STUDENT UNION

The Baptist Student Union isn't just for Baptist students. It is a campus ministry whose purpose is "to help students know Christ." This is accomplished through creating opportunities for USL students to interact with God in adventuresome experiences, creating a desire to adjust their lives to be like him.

# G R O U P S



# GROUPS

KAPPA DELTA PI

Kappa Delta Pi is the Education Honor Fraternity. Members must maintain at least a 3.0 GPA. This is a national teaching organization that provides service to the community.

EMPOWERMENT STUDENT GROUP

The Empowerment Student Group's motto is "One Voice For All". This new group is a liaison between students, faculty, and staff. They allow students to voice their concerns. This club is open to all students and meet every Wednesday. They also participate in community service, such as Extra Mile. They circulate surveys and open forms around campus to understand what the students want.

BETA GAMMA SIGMA

Beta Gamma Sigma is the national honor society for business and management students. Election to membership in Beta Gamma Sigma is the highest scholastic honor that a student in a school of business or management can achieve.

# UPS

NATIONAL SPEECH/LANGUAGE/HEARING ASSOC.

This is a student organization for speech, language, and hearing majors. The organization has about forty members that meet once a month. These members are involved with a clinical center, which serves as community and students service. The project in motion at this time is the "buddy system", which is to help international students to feel at home.

# GROUPS

GOSPEL CHOIR

The Gospel Choir is a university organization designed as a non-denominational ministry. Members have an opportunity to perform traditional gospel music. Yearly events include participating in an important competition in Nashville and celebrating the choir's anniversary with guest speakers and instructors.



# GROUPS

## Panhellenic Council

The Panhellenic Council governs National Panhellenic Sororities. The ones at USL include: Kappa Delta, Delta Delta Delta, Phi Mu, Sigma Sigma Sigma and Alpha Omicron Pi. The role of this council is to regulate and oversee sorority activities like Rush and also to facilitate philanthropy activities. Its members are made up of two student representatives from each sorority, ten members all together.

## Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia

Phi Mu Alpha is a music fraternity founded in 1898. USL's Delta Epsilon chapter celebrated its fiftieth anniversary December second of 1997.

The Fraternity as a national organization is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary in October of 1998. Phi Mu Alpha is not a social fraternity, it is a professional organization. This organization's primary goal is to advance research and education of American music throughout the nation.

## Pi Beta Delta

Pi Beta Delta is an Honor Society for International Scholars. It is open to any USL faculty, student, or staff interested in international issues and education. The organization encourages understanding and communication between different world cultures and seeks to improve relations between international students and American students and faculty.

## Pi Sigma Epsilon

Pi Sigma Epsilon is a co-ed Marketing Fraternity, mainly for Business majors. A way for students to network with area corporations and businesses, Phi Sigma Epsilon allows students to get involved in the community and meet others who share their major.

### Contributing Photographers:

Gwen Aucoin  
Lori Boutin  
Tanya Cormier  
Tracy Gardner  
Hollie LaGarde  
Jane Landry

# GROUPS

## Pi Sigma Epsilon

Pi Sigma Epsilon provides a practical, experiential environment to enhance a student's classroom education in marketing and sales. The chapter is organized and operated as an independent, small business. It allows for leadership modeling, project management, personal and professional development, networking, and communication. There is an annual national convention and a scholarship program.



## SIGMA PI SIGMA

Sigma Pi Sigma is a national business fraternity, including faculty as well as students. While not an extremely active organization on campus, it does provide the important opportunity for students to network with professionals in their field.

# G R O U P S

## RHO LAMBDA HONOR SOCIETY

Rho Lambda Honor Society was certified by USL in the spring semester of 1997. It is the honor society for panhellenic women. In fact Rho Lambda stands for panhellenic leadership. Every fall semester five members from each Greek chapter are selected to join the organization. The main event for this organization is the leadership conference in January. This conference is open to all organizations.

## SOCIOLOGY CLUB

The Sociology Club is a campus organization dedicated to the purpose of unifying students wishing to pursue an interest in the scientific study of society through meetings, lectures and field trips. The aims of the organization are to provide support for students interested in the field of sociology and encourage greater public awareness and appreciation for the sociological perspective.

## SCEC

The Student Council for Exceptional Children is a USL organization open to any students interested in working with children with disabilities. This organization works closely with community events geared towards exceptional children like: Special Olympics and the Louisiana annual State Special Education Conference also called Super Conference. Members also volunteer tutoring services to parents of children with disabilities.

## STUDENT DIETETIC ASSOCIATION

Student Dietetics Association is open to all Dietetics majors. Speakers in related fields are brought to weekly meetings to give information to USL students and the organizations sends representatives to the national annual convention.

# G R O U P S







# CRACKS

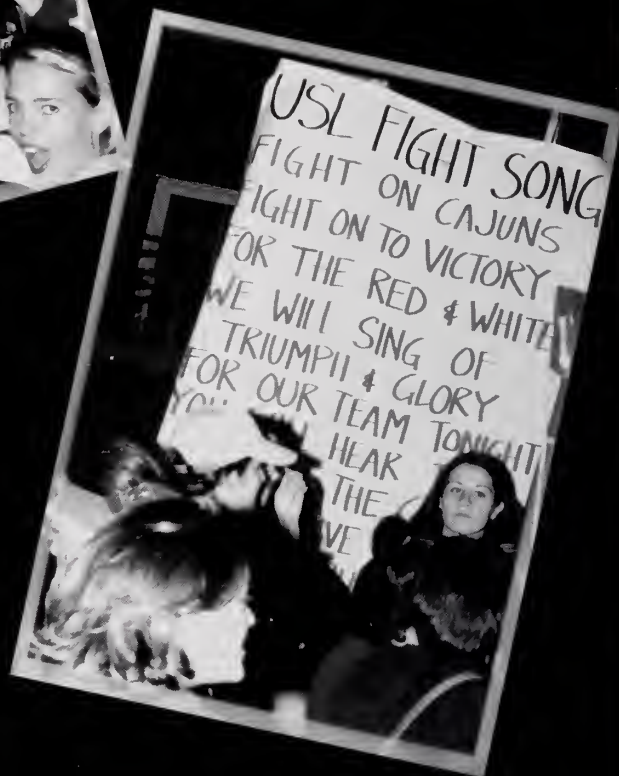


## POISED BETWEEN TRANSFORMATION AND TRADITION

Greeks “rush” toward a metamorphosis each year. As new members join a Greek organization each year, older members—those who have departed campus—are still an important part of each organization or chapter. By inducting new pledges into the Greek system and welcoming older members back to campus to celebrate unity and tradition, the Greek system lives as a never-ending family that grows and extends itself each year while remaining constant to its past and purpose. 🏛️



# FRUSH





# GRIZZLY WARRIOR





In 1967, a group of African American Women started a sorority called **Alpha Kappa Alpha** in order to uphold their founding principle: "to be of human service in the study and alleviation of social problems."

AKA has supported and continues to support a variety of tutoring, mentoring, and volunteer programs. The organization also supports breast cancer awareness, and several blood drives.

AKA has set up the Hope Bufford Scholarship, in the name of a fellow sister.

AKA encourages high moral, ethical, and academic standards. "We want the students to know that it is great to be Greek and that AKA is here for the students but, especially the female students," commented Danielle Frye, one of the heads of USL's AKA chapter. "We want to pass on our name to other USL students that it is an honor and a privilege to be Greek. That it is a positive thing not negative," said Frye.

USL's Epsilon Beta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha is here for the students in their time of need, no matter what.



# AKA







**Alpha Omicron Pi**, an international women's sorority, was founded on January 2, 1897, at Barnard College of Columbia University, and the Delta Beta Chapter of AOPi was established at USL in 1956.

Our official flower is the Jaqueminot Rose, a thornless red rose that symbolizes the beauty, love, and unity within our sisterhood.

Our color is cardinal, and our mascot is the panda bear.

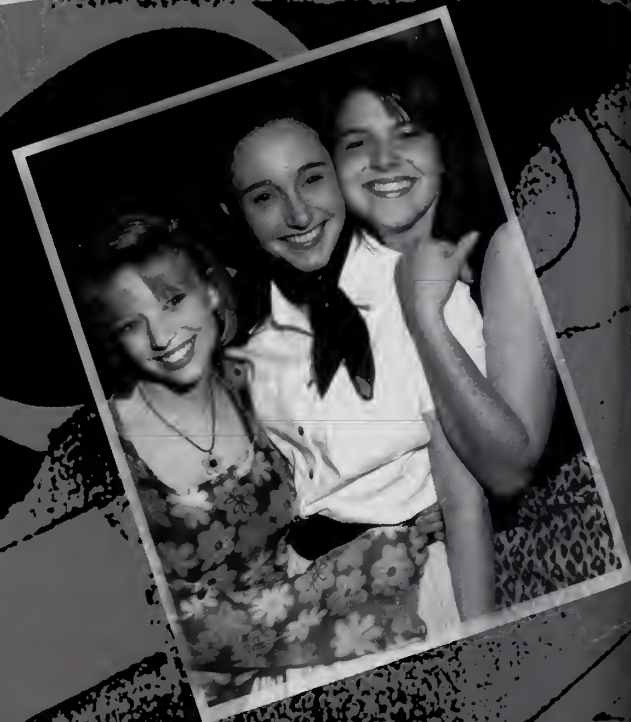
AOPi sisters are always there to lend a helping hand to those in need. Our national philanthropy is the Arthritis Research Foundation. We hold numerous events throughout the year to raise money for this great organization. Some of these events include Trick-or-Treat for Arthritis and a Spring Car Wash.

AOPi also donates panda bears with jerseys made during rush to Stuller Place, an organization that is an advocate for sexually and mentally abused children.

Even though AOPi members are always helping the Lafayette community, we do make time to have some fun! Some of the activities we hold throughout the year are Big Sis/Lil Sis, Football Date Party, Crush, Semi-Formal, Fraternity Socials, and many more! However, there is one event that happens once a year - the ROSE BALL!!!! It's the annual formal where we, the sisters of AOPi, get together, one last time, to honor those sisters that have exemplified the meaning of Alpha Omicron Pi, and those that have just joined our sisterhood.

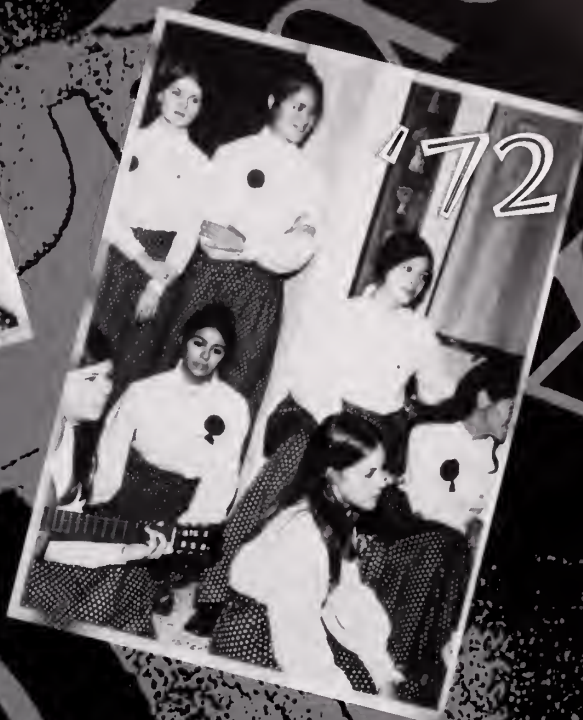
So we, the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi invite you to take a closer look into all we have to offer. After all, it's not what you become, it is what you've always been;

...Alpha Omicron Pi.



# AOPi







**Delta Delta Delta** sisters would like to invite you to join the fun at Fall Rush. Tri Delta was founded at Boston University in 1888. We believe in the principle that every woman is an individual, yet as a group we may better face the challenges and excitement of college life.

Tri Deltas are recognized by our mascot, the dolphin, our colors, silver, gold and blue, and our flower—the pansy.

Every year Tri Delta sponsors fund-raisers such as our Rock-A-Thon and Easter egg hunt to support our two philanthropies, Children's Cancer research and Scholarships for University Women. Also the Tri Deltas at USL were chosen to implement a national pilot service learning program in which our sisters worked with the Boys and Girls Club of Acadiana.

Academics is one of our top priorities and we provide resources and programs to help our sisters succeed. Tri Delta received the 1995-96 National Scholarship Honor Roll Award along with the Outstanding Rush Award among all national sororities.

We always enjoy attending our many social events such as Deltas Only, fraternity socials, or chapter retreats. We also sponsor Tri Delta date parties, for example, Fall Fling, Semi-Formal, Crush, and Spring Formal.

Come join us and get a taste of our sisterhood and spirit, each Tri Delta member contributes.







THIS WAS THE  
USLE DAY 1997



**Delta Sigma Theta** Sorority, Inc. was founded in the year 1913 on the campus of Howard University, and the Theta Xi Chapter at USL was installed in 1971. The basic and continuing thread of our organization's public service program is in its five-point thrusts through which each chapter in 562 communities develop action in response to local needs including:

- Educational Development
- Economic Development
- Community and International Development
- Housing and Urban Development
- Mental Health

Delta women are active volunteers at both the national and local levels of YMCA, NAACP Urban League, Girl Scouts, Red Cross, United Community Funds, Habitat for Humanities, Sickle Cell Anemia, and Read America. At the local level, the chapter participates in the Martin King Holiday Association, Lafayette Teen Court, Lafayette Youth Conference Committee, Adopt a Grandparent, PROLINK, and project W.A.K.E.U.P.

An inspiring quote which the Theta Xi Chapter thrives on is, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me."

Members of Delta Sigma Theta are represented on USL's campus in UPC, SGA, SOS, AmeriCorps, Scholars of Acadiana, Ronald E. McNair program, and the Order of Omega.

The sorority sponsors the annual Greek Extravaganza, a step show in which NPHC organizations from surrounding states participate. The proceeds for this event allows Delta Sigma Theta to support projects under its five-point plan and give academic scholarships for both high school and college women.



**ΔΣΘ**







**Kappa Delta** was founded in 1897 in Richmond, Virginia. Our jewels: the diamond, emerald, and pearl, our mascots: the teddy bear and nautilus shell are representative of Kappa Delta everywhere.

Kappa Deltas hold certain ideals close to their hearts. Three things come to mind when thinking of a true Kappa Delta: scholarship, philanthropy, and sisterhood. KDs continuously strive for high scholastic achievement.

Our annual Parent/Daughter scholarship banquet acknowledges those members who excel scholastically.

Kappa Delta Sorority also works to raise money for various charities. Since 1984, Kappa Deltas have raised money through their Shamrock project to benefit their national philanthropy, The National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse, which was founded by a Kappa Delta. On USL's campus, Kappa Deltas annually host a fashion show to raise money for the local Children's Shelter.

Other local philanthropic activities KDs participate in include the Bengal Tree, Running of the Ducks, Gift Wrapping for MDA, and Daffodil Days to raise money for the local chapter of the American Cancer Society.

Of all these ideals, KDs bond of sisterhood is the most important. It is this bond that has led them to the top. Each member contributes her individuality to form one unique and united circle of friendship.

Kappa Delta's social calendar is always full, whether it be a fraternity social, members-only retreat, or a KD date party, such as Grub, Cookout, Mystery Date, or the Emerald Ball.

So come join us to catch a glimpse of the laughter, joy, and sisterhood we feel as members of Kappa Delta Sorority.



# KΔ







**Phi Mu** is the second oldest sorority in existence today. Founded in Macon, Georgia in 1852 at Wesleyan College, Phi Mu has since then grown around the nation. A significant part of being in Phi Mu is giving time to philanthropy. The main beneficiary of Phi Mu is the Children's Miracle Network. The Alpha Sigma Chapter at USL has many fundraisers throughout the year and donates time to help others. A car wash is held every year for our main beneficiary, and during Christmas, Phi Mu participates in the Toys for Tots Program. Another big fundraiser is Big Man on Campus, where all fraternities and sororities compete to raise the most money for CMN and whoever wins gets to trade places with a Dean for a day. Other activities aside from philanthropy include socials, family day, state day, and founders day. Every semester, Phi Mu has various socials with fraternities with themes such as Purple Haze and Around the World. As well as activities such as attending hockey games (to support our PMu Gator Girls), haunted houses and crawfish boils are also held to maintain Greek relations. Some of Phi Mu sponsored activities are Fall Fiesta, Mystery Date, Crush, and the Spring Carnation Ball. They are quite exciting and never to be missed! Besides being active in Phi Mu, many of our ladies are on fraternity courts and participate in activities such as cheerleading, dance teams, and Order of Omega. Phi Mu also took 1st place in Homecoming Week on their float in '96, and had a great time preparing for it. Phi Mu also won the Championship Greek Challenge Softball tournament held with all other fraternities and sororities. However, the most important part of being a Phi Mu is sharing its unique sisterhood. We take pride in being open, honest, and friendly to everyone we meet. We live by three ideals passed on to us by our founders: love, honor, and truth.



# ΦΜ







On April 20, 1898 eight women at the State Female National School in Farmville, Virginia cemented their ties of friendship by forming the SSS club. Thirty one years later, the tradition continued as Tri-Sigma became the very first national sorority on USL's campus.

The Alpha Mu chapter of **Sigma Sigma Sigma** takes pride in our unique history and the genuine bonds of friendship that it has given us. Our sisterhood is the strongest because of our individuality. Although Sigma sisters have many common interests, we each have different dreams and goals. Tri Sigma's colors are purple and white; our symbol is the sailboat; and the open motto which we live by is "Faithful until Death." The Sisters of Sigma Sigma Sigma promote leadership, campus involvement, academic achievement, Greek unity, and lifetime of friendship and sisterhood. You can be sure that when you're a part of Tri-Sigma, you're never alone!

Tri Sigma is USL's sorority whose national philanthropy ties back to our history. The Robbie Page Memorial supports the development of play therapy rooms for hospitalized children. Because of our dedication to service and our loyalty to our community, Mayor Lastrapes has dedicated April 20 as Tri-Sigma week in Lafayette!

Our social calendar is always busy with sorority date parties such as Sigma Stowaway, Mistletoes and Beaus, Grub, Pearl Cotillion, and Parent/Daughter Day. We also participate in all intramural sports, among other USL activities.

The sisters of Tri Sigma would like to wish you the best of luck for all your years at USL. Remember, as Tri Sigmas we are sisters by chance and friends by choice.



ΣΣΣ





Sigma Sigma Sigma  
USL Bid Day 1996



**Zeta Phi Beta** was founded on January 16, 1920 on the campus of Howard University in Washington D.C. by five coeds. These women dared to depart from the traditional Coalitions for black women and sought to establish a new organization predicated on the precepts of scholarship, service, sisterhood, and finer womanhood.

For seventy-seven years, the trail blazed by the founders has been traversed by thousands of women dedicated to the emulation of the objectives and ideals of the sorority.

Zeta Phi Beta was the first organization to charter a chapter in Africa, to form adult and youth auxiliary groups, and to be constitutionally bound to a brother group, Phi Beta Sigma, Inc.

The official colors are royal blue and white. The sorority has its annual Finer Womanhood Week and emphasizes the different ideals of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority each day. During this week, the annual collegiate woman of the year award is given to that young lady that exemplifies the ideals of Zeta Phi Beta. The chapter's most notable accomplishment is the adoption of the pediatrics ward at University Medical Center.

Zeta Phi Beta is supported by the dues and gifts of its members. The sorority extends its membership to outstanding personalities inviting them to be honorary members. It is incorporated in Washington, D.C. and Illinois as a non-profit organization.



# ZΦB







**Alpha Phi Alpha** is a world-wide networking system of Brothers in every profession, with the common purpose of stimulating the ambition of its members; to prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the cause of humanity, freedom, and dignity of the individual, to encourage the highest and noblest form of manhood; to aid downtrodden humanity in its efforts to achieve higher social, economic, and intellectual status.

The Zeta Xi Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. with its conviction and integrity has continued to be a leader in community service. We are making a positive impact on the young people of this community through our national mentoring efforts. Our very effective programs involving youths include the Go to High School and Go to College Programs, the Project Alpha seminar and we have partnerships with Boy Scouts and Big Brothers and Big Sisters of America.

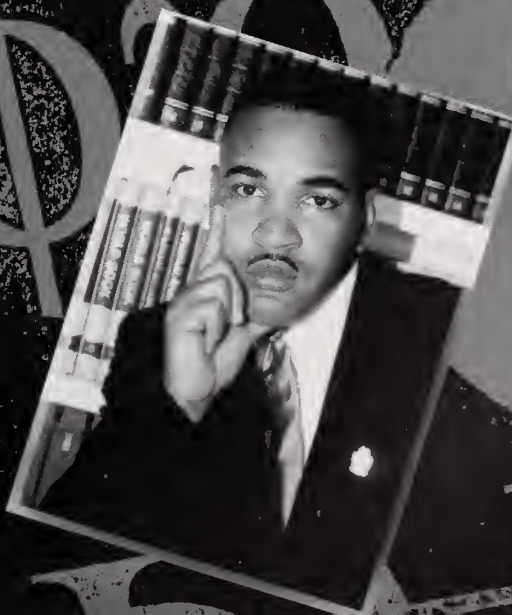
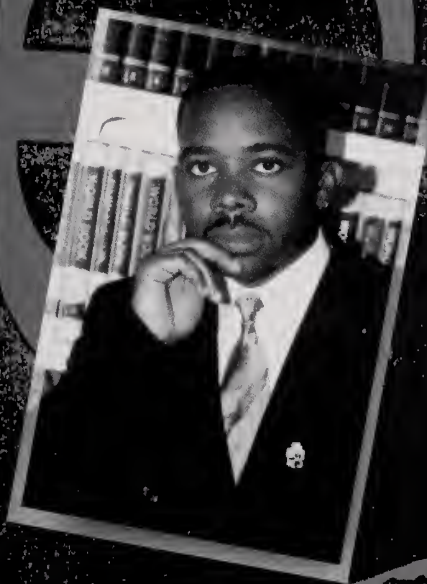
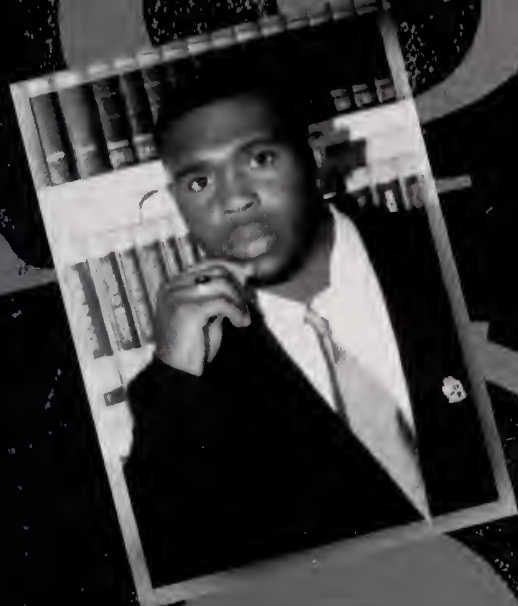
The Zeta Xi Chapter also participates in many local community service projects which include the MDA Telethon, St. Joseph's Diner, Walktoberfest, Holy Rosary Referral School, Vermillion Street Group Home, Amelia Manor Nursing Home, Food for Families, Martin Luther King Jr. Road Cleanup, and Habitat for Humanity. We also give scholarships to local high school seniors.

Throughout our history, the men of Alpha Phi Alpha have sought to light the way for others. Today, Alpha brothers across the nation continue to hold the torch high, as we address the issues of racism, discrimination, unemployment and substandard education; in the dimming light of humanity, the Zeta Xi Chapter is grasping the torch and holding it high.



# ΑΦΑ







## **Gamma Alpha Chi** Fraternity

was founded at Louisiana State University on November 10, 1990. Founded by fourteen LSU freshmen, Gamma Alpha Chi was to be a positive and innovative alternative to the negativity that the fraternal community at LSU possessed at the time. The original members of Gamma Alpha Chi set out to forge a new path of service to the community and of TRUE brotherhood between members of Gamma Alpha Chi and also among other members of the Greek community.

Armed with only strong wills and driving ambition, the brothers of Gamma Alpha Chi fulfilled and surpassed all of their expectations for the new organization.

Within its first six months of existence, Gamma Alpha Chi had already expanded to Southern University in Baton Rouge, and to the University of New Orleans.

Gamma Alpha Chi had also set the stage for its Service-based-Social Fraternity roll, by performing on the average of two hundred fifty service hours per week in the surrounding community.

Socially, Gamma Alpha Chi also excelled by hosting parties, picnics, and sporting events. The young fraternity served its fellow students clean, positive activities.

The USL chapter was officially chartered in 1996. They have since become active participants of the Greek System.



# TAX







**Kappa Alpha Psi** Fraternity was founded by 10 men on January 5, 1911 on the campus of Indiana University at Bloomington, Indiana. The chapter at USL was chartered during the school year of 1974-1975.

The organization prides itself on service to the community. Throughout the past school year, there were many public service projects that were completed. One of the most significant was the tutorial program set up at Truman Elementary School where brothers assisted students in their daily assignments.

Also established by the fraternity was the Kappa Leadership Developmental League. The "Kappa League" as it is referred to, is part of the Fraternities National Guide Right Program. This program nurtures males in high school with SAT workshops, tutoring, career services, cultural activities, and health education programs.

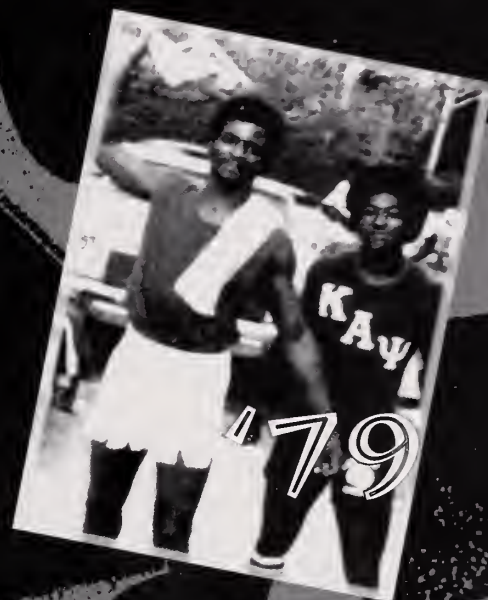
There are many prominent men that have achieved membership into the noble clan of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. Among them include Jon Drummond, a silver medalist in the 1996 Olympic Games, Anfernee Hardaway, current Orlando Magic Superstar, high jump specialist Hollis Conway with Olympic medals, John Singleton, film director, the late Arthur Ashe, and attorney of the most famous case this century, Johnnie Cochran, just to name a few.

Many are still amazed that ten young men studying at Indiana University years ago, could conceive of an idea so thoroughly rooted and grounded in concrete reality that it would sweep through the country for over eight decades, gathering momentum, capturing the imagination and enthusiasm of thousands of young men, molding them into a fellowship that would bind us together from coast to coast.



# KAPSI





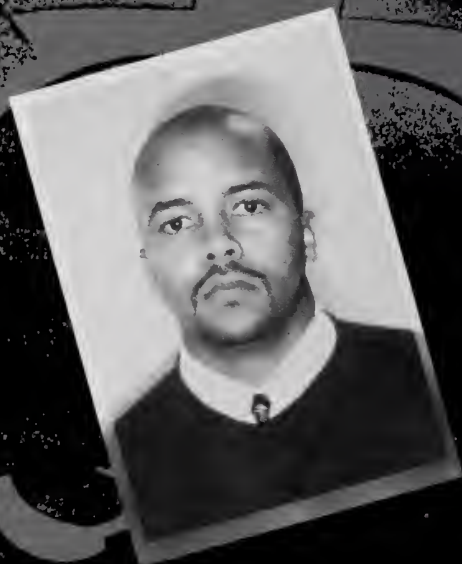
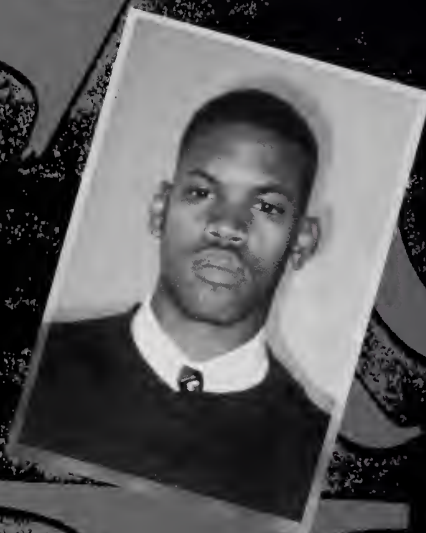


**Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.** was founded on November 17, 1911 at Howard University by four distinguished, determined, and ambitious men. The Gamma Delta Chapter at USL was founded in 1972. The men of Omega Psi Phi strive to uphold the cardinal principles of the fraternity which are:

- \* Manhood
- \* Scholarship
- \* Perseverance
- \* Uplift

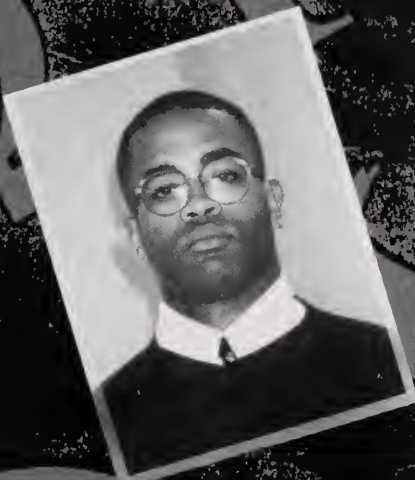
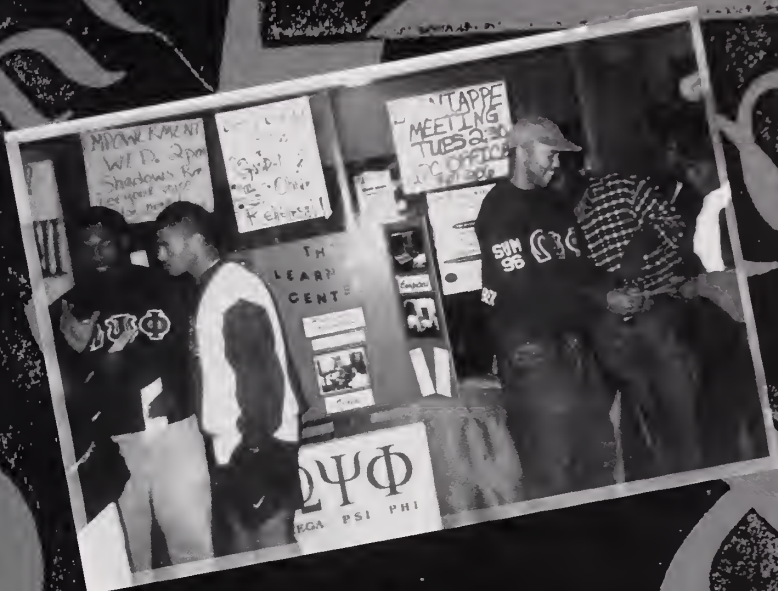
Omega men are active volunteers at the local, national, and international levels. At the local level, the Chapter participates in adopt a black Boy Scout troop, Salvation Army, and provides academic scholarships to incoming freshmen. At the national level, Omega Psi Phi contributes to the United Negro College Fund, National High School Essay Contest, and numerous National Scholarships that are awarded to qualified Omega men, on the basis of academics and service.

The men of Gamma Delta are steadily continuing to rebuild the strengths, principles, and image that the four founders originally implemented for Omega Psi Phi.



**ΩΨΦ**



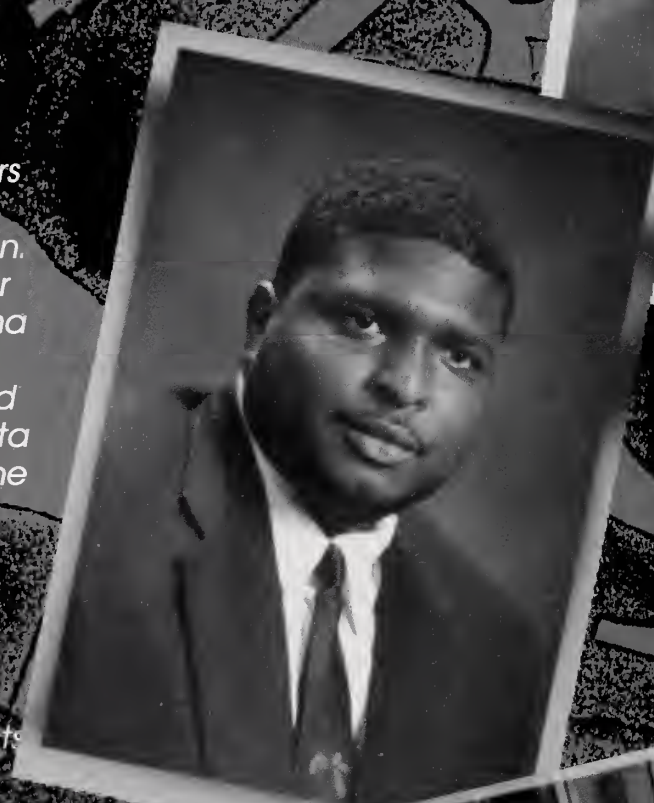




**Phi Beta Sigma** Fraternity, Inc. was founded at Howard University in Washington D.C., on January 8, 1914, by three young African American male students. The founders are the honorable A. Langston Taylor, Honorable Leonard F. Morse, and Honorable Charles I. Brown. Our three founders wanted to organize a Greek-letter fraternity that would truly exemplify the high ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service. They believed that each potential leader should be judged on his own merits, rather than his family background or affluence, without regard to race, nationality, color, skintone, or hair texture. Our commitment for delivering services to the general community is strongly expressed in our fraternity motto, which is "Culture for service, and service for humanity."

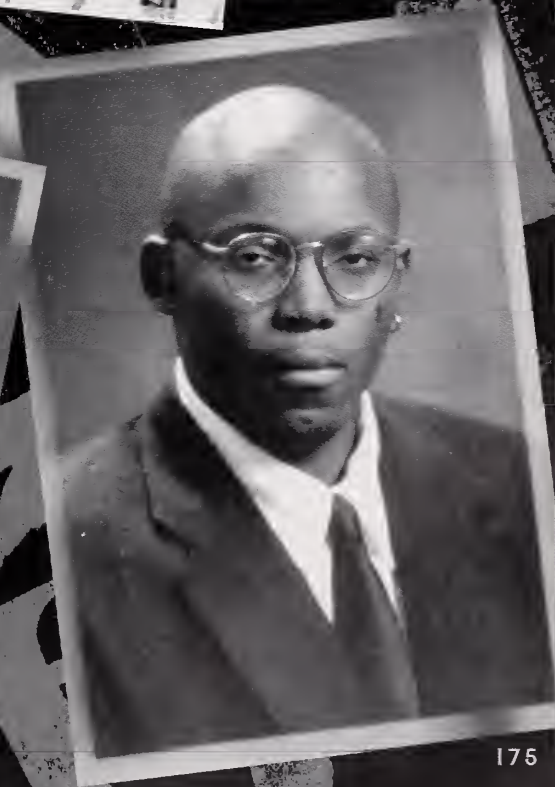
The Iota, Iota Chapter of the Phi beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. was founded on the campus of USL in the Fall of 1976. The fraternity colors are royal blue and white, and the fraternity flower is the white carnation.

In keeping the dreams of our founders' ideas alive, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. is aided by its sister sorority which are the beautiful and devastating women of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Zeta and Sigma are the only two members of the National Pan-Hellenic Council to be Constitutionally bound together as real brothers and sisters, together with the Omega, Eta chapter and the Iota, Iota Chapter here at USL. We do sisterly and brotherly projects such as visiting children at UMC, collecting money for Special Olympics with our Can-Shake-Drive and also helping the community with bigger and better business, social action, and educational programs.



# ΦΒΣ







What does college life have to offer you? Most college students cannot answer this question completely. If you would like to experience the answers, instead of hearing about them, then **Lambda Chi Alpha** is for you.

Lambda Chi Alpha participates in all of the intramural sports that USI has to offer. Not only do we participate in all of the sports, we host the annual Greek/City flag-football tournament in the Lafayette area. Our social functions include Voodoo party, Homecoming, and Crush to name a few.

In academics, we had one of the highest grade points on campus. Our house boards more people than any other house on the row.

Last fall, we raised over four thousand pounds of food for the local community during our annual North American Food Drive.

These are just a few of the great things Lambda Chi Alpha has to offer.

Lambda Chi Alpha.  
It's where you belong.



Λ Χ Α



**Phi Kappa Theta**- A winning tradition at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. Since that glorious day in May, 1941, the brothers of this fraternity have been a vibrant part of college at USL. PKT, as it is affectionately known, is proud of its history as the oldest national fraternity on campus.

The requirements that the fraternity was founded on are honor to God and our fellow man, as well as scholastic excellence. Year after year, PKT upholds these values in all our competitions pursued.

For the past ten years, the chapter has placed in the top three positions for Homecoming Sweepstakes; furthermore, the brothers have been leaders in Greek Intramural Athletics for the past twelve seasons.

The highest award on campus is the Dean's Award. It is presented to the fraternity that has excelled in scholastics, campus involvement, interrelations with other Greek organizations, and community service. For several years, PKT has received this outstanding award.

Competitions are exciting and fun, BUT- there comes a time to party! And PKT offers many opportunities- socials with sororities, the annual South Seas Party, TGIF, and the annual Columbine Formal.



ΦΚΤ



## **Sigma Alpha Epsilon.**

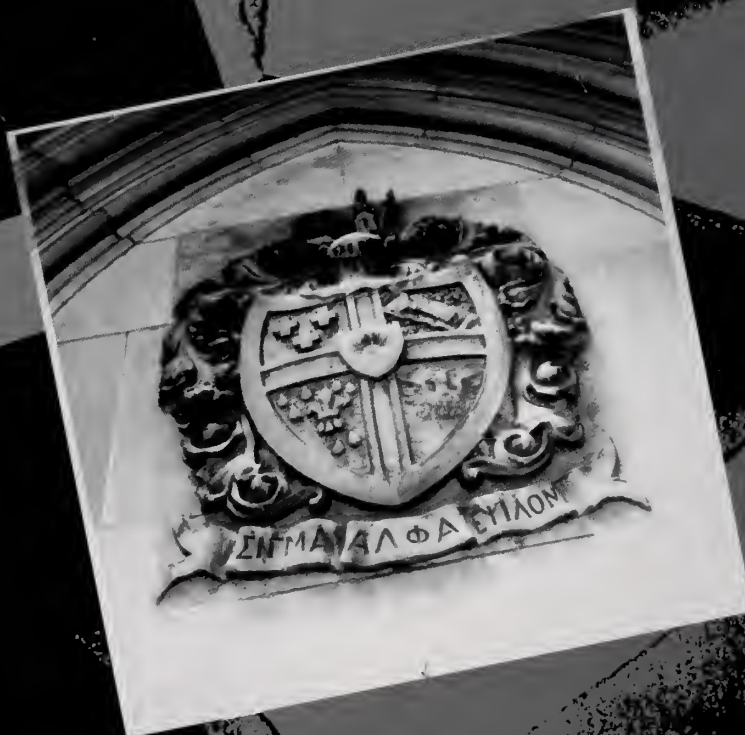
founded March 9, 1856, is the first fraternity founded in the "Old South." It has grown in its 141 years of existence to be the largest fraternity in the world with over 150,000 members in the United States and Canada.

Founded on the true principles of a gentleman, SAE has fostered growth and development among its members fulfilling its mission to foster lasting friendships, build confident leaders, and provide those essential elements necessary for the college man to prosper.

The Louisiana Alpha Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon has grown into one of the dominant forces on USL's campus. Sigma Alpha Epsilon offers you a chance to develop as a man. SAE offers you a balanced colleg experience, as an athlete, a scholar, and a gentleman. SAE's are everywhere.

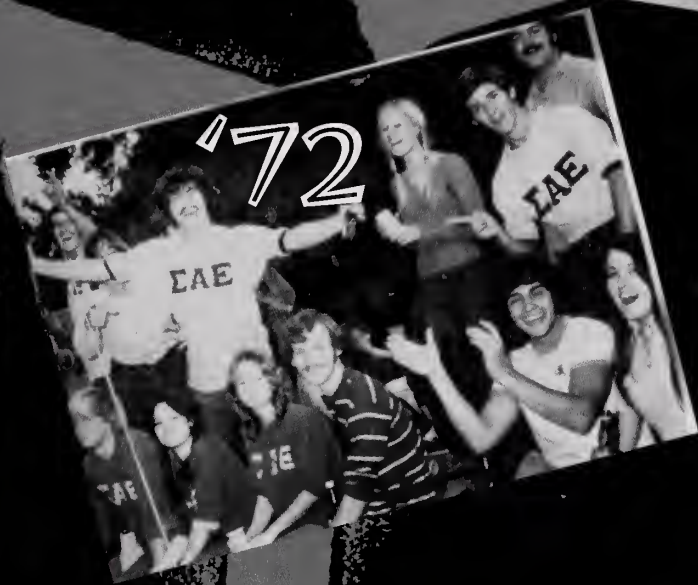
We are varsity athletes, Student Government senators, Intrafraternity Council leaders, entrepreneurs, scholars, and gentlemen. We are balanced men.

SAE's are always on the move. We take pride in our actions and accomplishments. We offer our members more activities than any other fraternity, a life of activity and adventure. As you begin to consider which fraternity best suits your needs and wants, remember SAE has every factor of the college experience in mind, just as you do. Mind and muscle, buisness and pleasure, heart and soul, it's all here, where the man of the 90's is at work, at play, or at home.



# ΣΑΕ





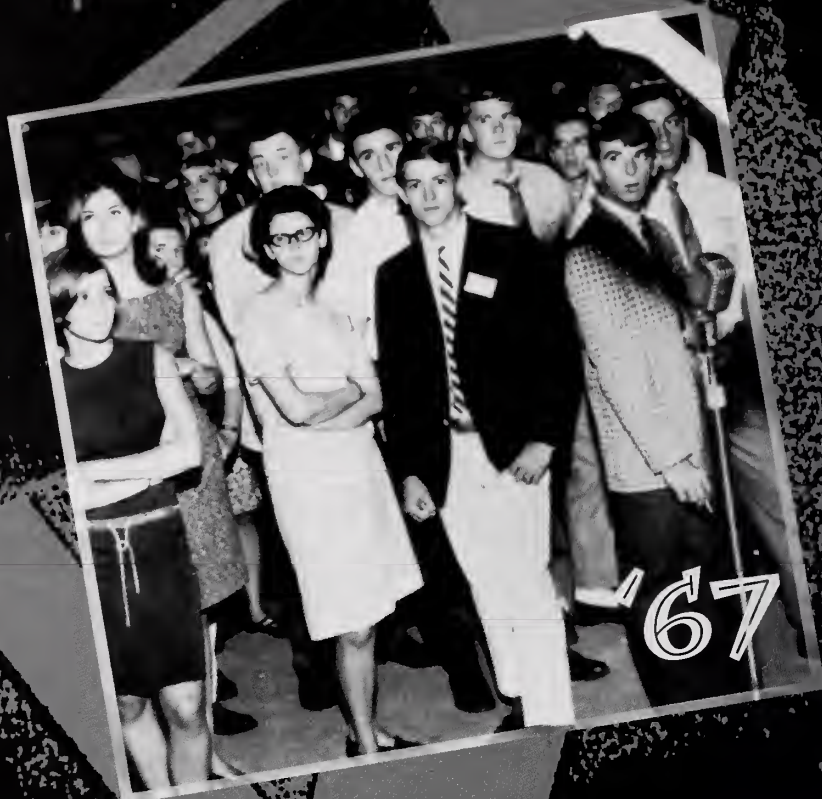


**Sigma Nu** International Fraternity was founded on the principle of honor at the Virginia Military Institute in 1869. George William Morgan Wright began the Eta Nu Chapter here at USL on May 18, 1963. Sigma Nu has continued its legacy of excellence to this day, initiating over nine hundred members. The chapter currently has over fifty active members.

Our fraternity house, the only two-story house on the row, was recently remodeled and landscaped. Sigma Nu has dominated the USL campus for years in grades, social activities, and sports. We have won the Fraternity All-Sports trophy eight years in a row, and nineteen out of the last twenty-six.

Sigma Nu has won the Homecoming Sweepstakes three out of the last four years. Sigma Nu has socials with each sorority every semester, and is the only fraternity with an out of state formal: The White Rose Formal.

Sigma Nu - Honor First.



ΣΝ







**Tau Kappa Epsilon**, fraternity of kings and presidents. As brothers of Teke, we welcome all new students to USL and those who wish to go Greek.

Tau Kappa Epsilon was founded on January 10, 1899, at Illinois Wesleyan University, and has since become one of the largest international fraternities in the world. The Omicron Kappa Chapter was founded at USL in 1974, and was re-chartered in 1993. Today Teke is one of the largest Greek organizations on campus, adding a success to the fraternity as a whole. Tekes have held positions as SGA President, Greek Council President and Vice-President, UPC members, as well as several SGA senators and committee members. Tau Kappa Epsilon is building a reputation, not resting on one.

Tau Kappa Epsilon is also an active force within the community. We participate annually with our national philanthropy, The Special Olympics. Within the Lafayette community, Tekes participate with Habitat for Humanity, St. Joseph's Dinner, Big Brothers of Acadiana, and the Salvation Army, as well as adopting Dupre' Library. Teke has completed the most community service hours of any Greek organization on campus for the past four years in a row, as well as winning the prestigious Dean's Choice Award three of the last four years.

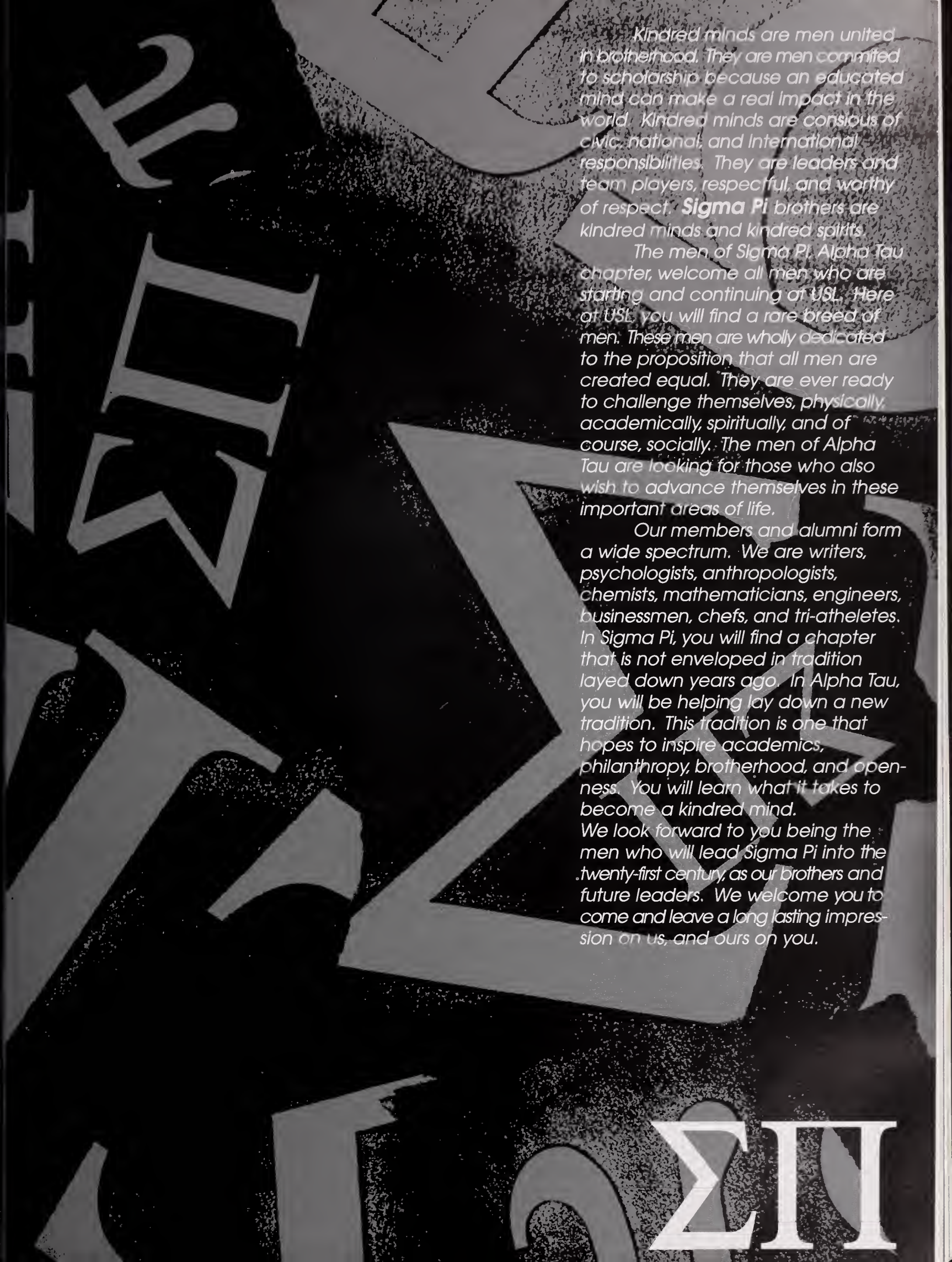
TKE also knows how to have fun. With Homecoming, Tiki Island, Red Carnation Ball, End of the World, Hell Party, and more, Tekes know how to have a good time!

Tau Kappa Epsilon, the choice to belong, the challenge to become.



# TKE



The background of the page is a dark, textured collage of geometric shapes and Greek letters. Large, stylized letters like 'Σ' and 'Π' are visible, along with various triangles and abstract patterns in shades of gray and black.

Kindred minds are men united in brotherhood. They are men committed to scholarship because an educated mind can make a real impact in the world. Kindred minds are conscious of civic, national, and international responsibilities. They are leaders and team players, respectful, and worthy of respect. **Sigma Pi** brothers are kindred minds and kindred spirits.

The men of Sigma Pi, Alpha Tau chapter, welcome all men who are starting and continuing at USL. Here at USL you will find a rare breed of men. These men are wholly dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. They are ever ready to challenge themselves, physically, academically, spiritually, and of course, socially. The men of Alpha Tau are looking for those who also wish to advance themselves in these important areas of life.

Our members and alumni form a wide spectrum. We are writers, psychologists, anthropologists, chemists, mathematicians, engineers, businessmen, chefs, and tri-athletes. In Sigma Pi, you will find a chapter that is not enveloped in tradition layed down years ago. In Alpha Tau, you will be helping lay down a new tradition. This tradition is one that hopes to inspire academics, philanthropy, brotherhood, and openness. You will learn what it takes to become a kindred mind. We look forward to you being the men who will lead Sigma Pi into the twenty-first century, as our brothers and future leaders. We welcome you to come and leave a long lasting impression on us, and ours on you.

ΣΠ



The brothers of the Alpha Omicron Chapter of **Theta Xi** would like to welcome you to USL and extend an invitation to participate in formal rush. As the oldest fraternity on campus, we offer brotherhood, tradition, and a variety of extracurricular activities such as: Greek Council, Order of Omega, IFC, Homecoming, Student Orientation Staff, Military Reserves, Greek Week, Job Opportunities, Philanthropy, Intramural Sports, Campouts.

We also have a variety of parties that include "Toga," "Lust," Homecoming and a variety of sorority socials. Nevertheless, these social events have not slowed down our grade average as our GPA is consistently above the All-Men's Average.

Theta Xi is one of the only national fraternities that has adopted two nationally sponsored charities, Habitat for Humanities and Multiple Sclerosis. This should show how important community service is in Theta Xi.

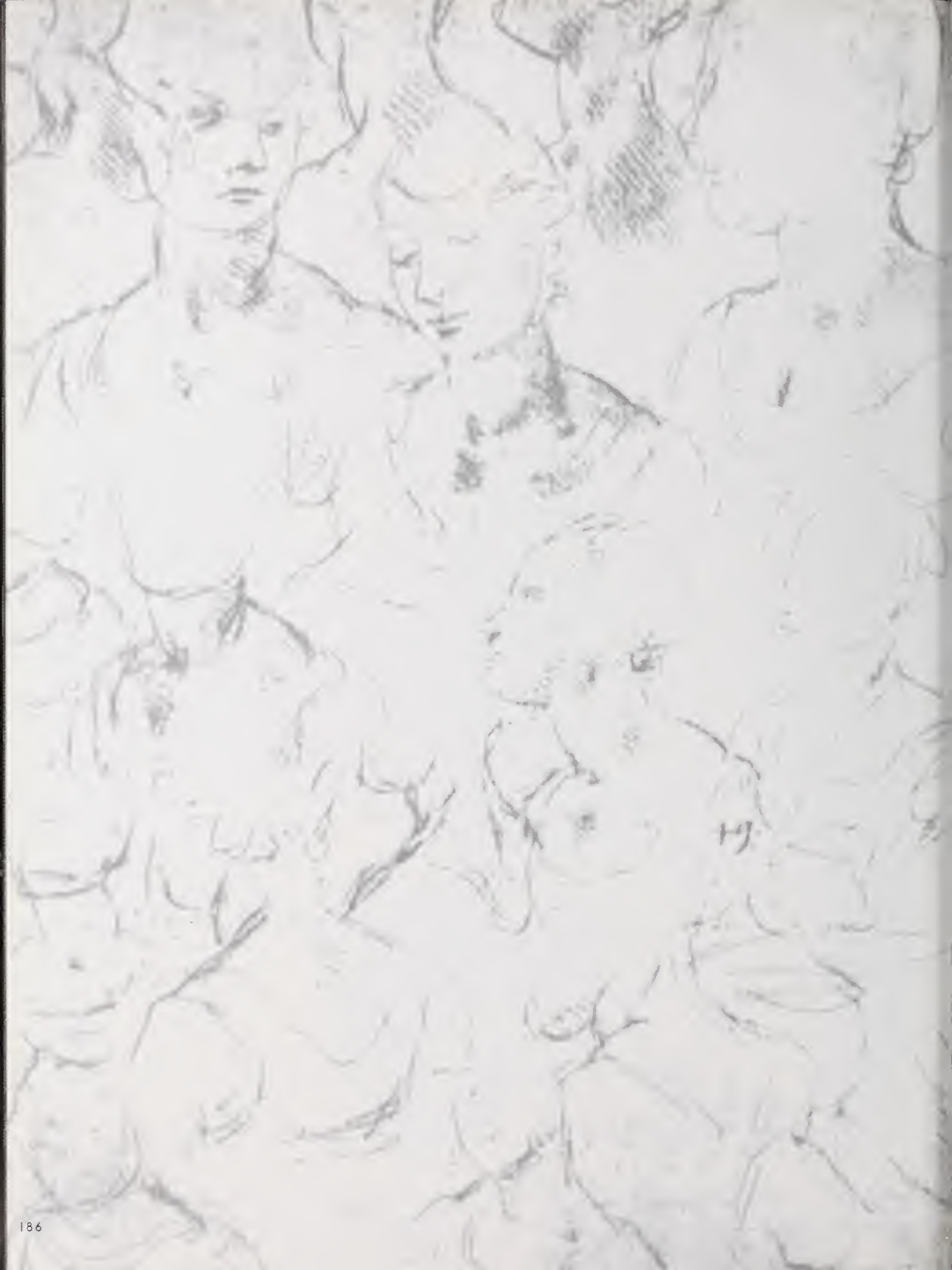
The brother Alpha Omicron would like to extend a warm welcome to all rushees in hopes of a good rush.

















Abad, Jenny E  
 Abadie, Kenneth J  
 Abdulla, Mohammad  
 Abell, Edward C  
 Abney, Ellen K  
 Abraham, Charmaine L  
 Abraham, Danica N  
 Abraham, John G



Abraham, Shantele D  
 Abrams, Tyrone L  
 Abrusley, Stephanie A  
 Abshire, Angel M  
 Abshire, Dina B  
 Abshire, Gail M  
 Abshire, Jeremy P  
 Abshire, Jeremy P



Abshire, Joey J  
 Abshire, Karmen E  
 Abshire, Kerry D  
 Abshire, Michele K  
 Abshire, Michelle A  
 Abshire, Renee C  
 Abshire, Rory P  
 Abshire, Sabrina K



Abshire, Shelly R  
 Abu, Kishk Sami  
 Abuamer, Husam H  
 Abukishk, Hani S  
 Acevedo, Nadiuska N  
 Achee, Phoebe R  
 Achord, Steven M  
 Acklen, Joy M



Adams, Blake C  
 Adams, Brandy N  
 Adams, Christopher A  
 Adams, Daniel E  
 Adams, Eric J  
 Adams, Jeremiah V  
 Adams, Justin W  
 Adams, Kelly E



Adams, Rebecca J  
 Adams, Ronald E  
 Adams, Stacey L  
 Adams, Stanley C  
 Addison, LaQuanta  
 Adkins, Michelle L  
 Adkins, Raymond W  
 Adler, Jennifer K



Afewerki, Samrawit A  
 Agard, Ebony C  
 Aguilar, Walter M  
 Aguillard, Darla J  
 Aguillard, Doshia M  
 Aguillard, Trisha L  
 Aguirre, Jennifer E  
 Aguirre, Oswaldo W



Ahart, Steven J  
 Ahrabi, Randall K  
 Aiken, Andrea N  
 Airhart, Jason A  
 Akebu-Lan, Kemit N  
 Akins, Larry D  
 Akkaraju, Nikhil  
 Al-Ajmi, Faisal D



Al-Darweesh, Hamad H  
 Al-Dossary, Paula L  
 Al-Hameed, Zakee  
 Al-Harran, Hamed H  
 Al-Harthi, Mohamed S  
 Al-Harthy, Al-Khalil A  
 Al-Hinai, AbdulmajeeM  
 Al-Juwaisri, Zari S



Al-Nassar, Hamid A  
 Al-Shaiji, Abdullah A  
 Al-Siabi, Talal H  
 Alack, Christopher B  
 Alam, Munirul M  
 Alarcon, Edgar  
 Albarado, Christopher J  
 Albarado, Colby J



Albarado, Corey J  
 Albarado, Daman P  
 Albarado, Elizabeth N  
 Albarado, Leah E  
 Albarado, Rondel P  
 Albarado, Stephanie A  
 Albert, Andrea L  
 Albert, Bethany C







Albert, Coran J  
 Albert, Damon A  
 Albert, Darrell K  
 Albert, Katye L  
 Albert, Shannon M  
 Albright, Christy R  
 Albritton, Heather R  
 Alciatore, Erin M

Alciatore, Mary P  
 Alesi, Avery T  
 Alesi, Mariano D  
 Alexander, April L  
 Alexander, Christopher II  
 Alexander, Courrey J  
 Alexander, Erica  
 Alexander, Ishe L

Alexander, Jennifer C  
 Alexander, Jermell  
 Alexander, Lakeisha S  
 Alexander, LaTasha M  
 Alexander, Lekesha C  
 Alexander, Lorraine M  
 Alexander, Mark T  
 Alexander, Michael L

Alexander, Michelle  
 Alexander, Rachel A  
 Alexander, Rhonda B  
 Alexander, Shakita M  
 Alexander, Shearro L  
 Alexander, Tameka S  
 Alexander, Tina M  
 Alexander, Trey

Alfred, Glen E  
 Alfred, Joseph J  
 Alfred, Katrina C  
 Alfred, Precious E  
 Alfred, Shanell D  
 Ali, Hussain M  
 Allain, Jennifer R  
 Allain, Monique A

Alleman, Aaron K  
 Alleman, Anya R  
 Alleman, Carolyn D  
 Alleman, Kimberly A  
 Alleman, Kristan M  
 Alleman, Melinda F  
 Alleman, Parker L  
 Alleman, Rachel G

Alleman, Shantel  
 Alleman, Suzanna C  
 Allemand, Nicholas W  
 Allemond, Chantell M  
 Allemond, Jamey J  
 Allen, Brandy M  
 Allen, Elizabeth G  
 Allen, Ian C

Allen, John C  
 Allen, Matthew G  
 Allen, Robert J  
 Allen, Susan E  
 Allen, William D  
 Aloise, Rebecca L  
 Aloisio, Kristy L  
 Alsalem, Bashar

Alston, Carrie M  
 Altman, Mona A  
 Altobello, Stephen J  
 Alton, Kristopher G  
 Alvarado, Mario J  
 AlAmoudi, Basel M  
 AlAnsari, Yaseen Y  
 AlAsousi, Buder E

Al Awadhi, Walied M  
 Al Ghanemi, Amad M  
 Al Rashidi, Mohammad F  
 Al Saab, Ayman I  
 Amaeker, Calvin D  
 Amaya, Natasha T  
 Ambrogio, Charles N  
 Ambroise, Marvin J

Amos, Clement  
 Amy, Alan A  
 Amy, Debra L  
 Amy, Matthew K  
 Amy, Tracey A  
 Ancar, Tori M  
 Ancelet, Christopher J  
 Aneona, Rachel L



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Anderson, Byron L  
Anderson, Charles T  
Anderson, Christopher J  
Anderson, Clifford L  
Anderson, Cory  
Anderson, Grace M  
Anderson, Joanna C



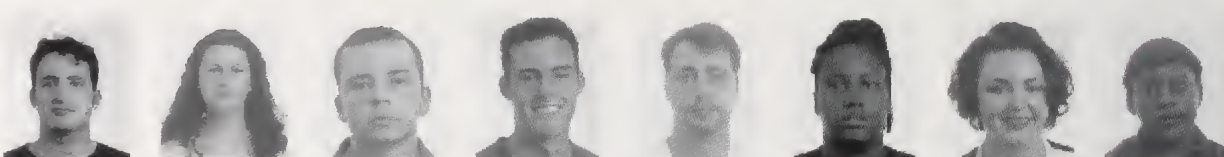
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Anderson, Tasha L  
Anderson, Taylor C



Anderson, Tyron U  
Anderson, Ursula M  
Andre, Angel E  
Andre, Chonnon A  
Andre, Jeffrey A  
Andrepoint, Anna T  
Andrepoint, Beau C  
Andrepoint, Beau J



Andrepoint, Brad M  
Andrepoint, Christine L  
Andrepoint, Durke P  
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Andrepoint, Rene T  
Andres, Felicia L  
Andrew, Laura D  
Andrews, Wenya A



Andries, Jennifer C  
Andries, Sarah E  
Andrus, Dana M  
Andrus, Jean B  
Angelle, Amie M  
Angelle, Brennan C  
Angelle, Brooke E  
Angelle, Camille R



Angelle, Christopher  
Angelle, Dedra A  
Angelle, Jamie G  
Angelle, Lisa M  
Angelle, Mark A  
Angelle, Neal C  
Angelle, Pamela A  
Angelle, Rachel R



Angelle, Shawn M  
Angelle, Simone S  
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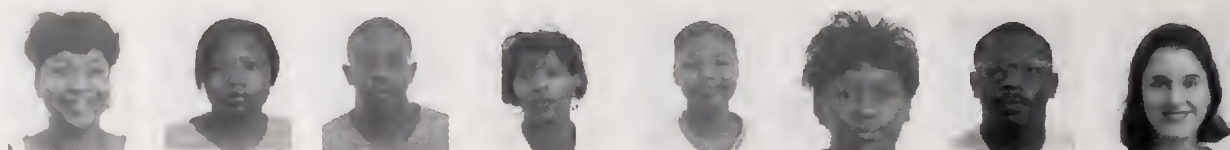
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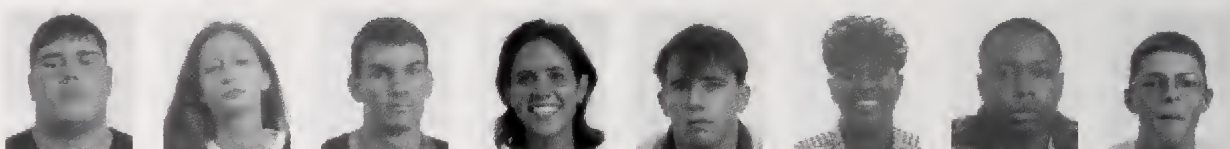
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# THERESA COMEAUX

When asked to describe herself in one word, Theresa Comeaux's answer was simply, "Outgoing." Comeaux is a 21-year-old senior majoring in Mass Communications, specifically, broadcasting. What makes Comeaux so outgoing? Two words: extracurricular activities—notably Greek activities.

Comeaux is vice president of Kappa Delta sorority, and she has been a Greek Seeker for three years. A Greek Seeker goes to local high schools and speaks to the students about Rush to promote Greek life. She is also president of the Order of Omega, the Greek honor society. Comeaux received the Nautilus Award, an award for the most outstanding girl in her chapter and she was also named Greek Woman of the Year in 1996.

Comeaux has been a member of the USL Cheerleading squad and the Ragin' Jazz dance squad for two years. She was co-captain of the dance team. She was on the 1996 Homecoming Court, was the 1996 Krewe of Roux Queen, (USL's Mardi Gras Krewe), and she has been a bat girl for the USL Baseball team.


Not only does Comeaux give her time and energy to her school, but she also gives back to the community. She is on the Church Retreat Team, a volunteer for the American Cancer Society and the Lafayette Children's Shelter. And she has been a member of the LASC (Louisiana Association of Student Council) for three years. Comeaux also held a part-time job, working about twenty hours a week at Pete's for the past three years.

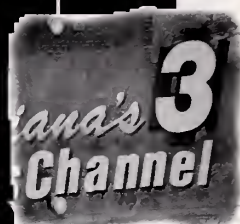
Does Comeaux have enough time to study? Yes, judging from the honors she has received for her scholastics. She has been named in Who's Who Among College Students. She also received a SGA scholarship in the spring of 1997, and she is a member of the Blue Key Honor Society.

"When people ask me how I do all that I do, I tell them the first thing is time management. Because I do everything that I do and I like it, it makes things easier. My social life has changed since my freshman and sophomore years. My priorities have changed. In addition, I don't care to go out as much as I used to; but, if I have the time, I will."

In August, Comeaux married her long-time boyfriend, Mike, whom she has been dating for six years. When did she find time in her hectic schedule to plan for, of all things, a wedding? "Mike helped me a lot and so did Tarrah (Theresa's sister). When we became engaged in December (1996), I tried to do all I could before school started again."

Comeaux also has high career goals after she graduates in August. "I have been offered a job as a producer at Channel 3. I'm an intern at the moment. I hope to go back to school to get my master's at USL, or go to Law School at LSU. As of now, I would like to do something in the broadcasting field."

Things seem to be going well for someone self-described as "outgoing." 





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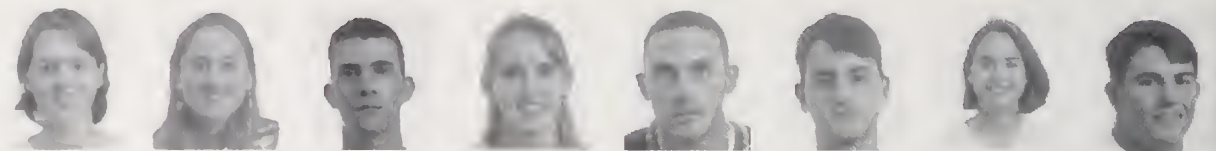
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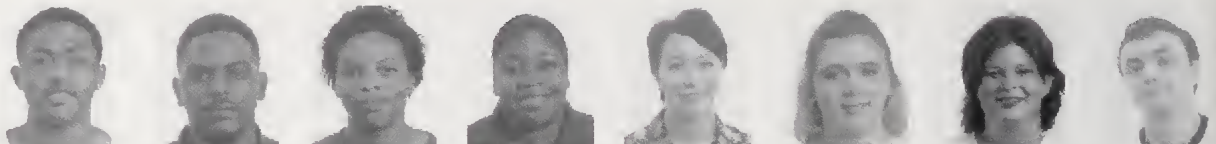
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 Blackwell, Patrick C







# BURTON KEATING

According to mechanical engineering senior Burton Keating, success comes with self confidence and will power.

"Success just doesn't fall in your lap," Keating stated. "It takes a lot of hard work."

The president of Tau Beta Pi (USL's Engineering Honor Society), as well as the vice president of Pi Tau Sigma (The Mechanical Engineering Honor Society) and the secretary of ASME (American Society of Mechanical Engineers), Keating gets his inspiration from his father.

"My dad is my role model," he pointed out. "He's been a hard worker all of his life. He is a farmer, and his job is not easy because it is dependent on things he cannot control like the weather. He gets up at the crack of dawn everyday and works till the sun goes down. I respect his determination, and I think some of it has carried over into what I am doing with respect to my studies and my involvement with USL."

Even though Keating is a dedicated student now, he said he hasn't always been so enthusiastic about his studies.

"I never really applied myself in high school," he explained. "I was on the track team, and that was my number one priority. I used to run eight miles a day. It wasn't until my junior year in college that I started to discipline myself. At that point, I started to see how all the classes I took previously were fitting together into a bigger picture. This sparked my interest, and now I'm an avid student."

Keating still runs as a hobby and enters the Cajun Cup every year just for fun.

"I've considered joining the track team, but I realistically don't have the time," he added. "I run in the Cajun Cup which is a 10 km race."

When asked about holding officer positions in three different organizations, Keating said he

attributes being elected to his outgoing personality.

"I've never been a straight-A student. I've always been above average, though. I think I got elected to these positions not because of my grades but because of my communication abilities. I'm easy to get along with."

"I became a member of ASME in the Spring of '97," he recalled. "This society helps mechanical engineering students stay interested in their field. We share ideas and show the newcomers the ropes. Over the past year, we organized a crawfish boil in Sunset and tried to get as many mechanical engineering students as we could to attend. We had almost all of our faculty members and our dean, Dr. Simon present. I just recently got initiated into Tau Beta Pi. You have to go through an interview process in front of all the members saying why you want to join. It was a spur of the moment type of deal because I didn't know I was going to have to give a speech when I went in there."

Keating has been on a Vietnam Veteran's Scholarship that has paid for his school books for the past three years.

"I'm thankful for the scholarship," Keating concluded. "My dad was in the Vietnam War and that was one of the requirements. It helps me a lot because my books are so expensive."

This friendly student is still living at home and said his closeness with his family helped him maintain a certain standard throughout college, even at a time when he wasn't very motivated.

"My first couple of years of college, I had to live up to what they expected," emphasized Keating. "If I had moved out, I'm pretty sure I wouldn't have been so successful." **M**





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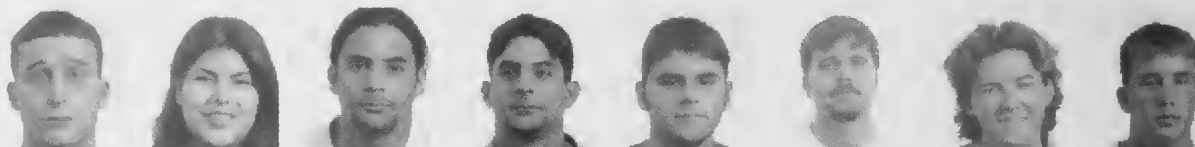
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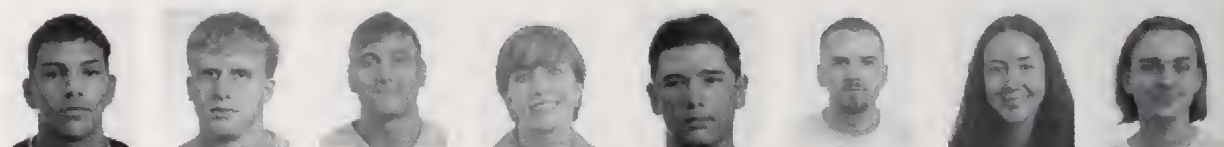
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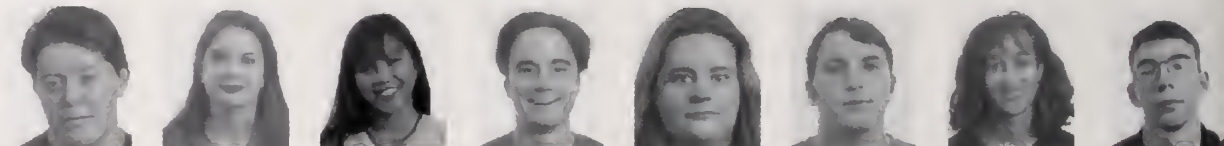
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# DAWN HOWEY

The one word that almost everyone uses when describing their life is "busy." There's school, homework, and—for some—jobs, and children that all have to be intertwined to make up just one day of our "busy" lives. But what if there was more to do in one day? What if you were to replace the word "busy" with the word "challenging?" Would that one word make a big difference in the way that you viewed your life and the way you think about those around you?

Dawn Howey's life is busy, like all of ours. But she chooses to make it challenging, not only to help those who are around her, but to better herself as a person.

Howey is a 21-year-old biology major who is expecting to graduate in May 1998. As a child, Howey's family moved a great deal, so she did not set roots to any particular place. "My parents were in the Air Force, and I have lived all over the world," she said. "I was born in Japan, and I have lived in Oklahoma, Texas, Germany for four years, Maine, and I graduated from high school in Shreveport."

Howey moved from Shreveport to Lafayette not knowing a soul here. She said that it was a challenge to try and meet new people and to get involved in different organizations and clubs.


"Most people in Shreveport, when you say USL, they say things like 'What?' They don't even know where Lafayette is." Howey said that the move to Lafayette was not so bad because she was so used to traveling with her family. The only difference this time was that her family was not with her.

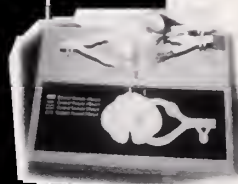
Howey is also an active member of several school organizations, as well as holding two jobs.

She is the editor of directory for the Blue Key and is senior vice president for the Association of Future Alumni. She is also a member of the Vermillion Honor Society, the Honors Program, and the Sports Medicine Society. Howey said that her greatest accomplishment was getting into Phi Kappa Phi, an interdisciplinary international honors program. Only the top 5 percent of the junior class with a 3.8 GPA or above and the top 10 percent of the senior class receive an invitation to join this prestigious organization. Her two jobs include working part time at a physical therapy clinic, and, working for Parking and Transit on campus and as a computer room coordinator for the dorms.

Dawn estimates that she works about 30 hours a week. She also volunteers at Lourdes Hospital in the Physical Therapy Department. Unbelievably, she does find enough time for her friends and her boyfriend.

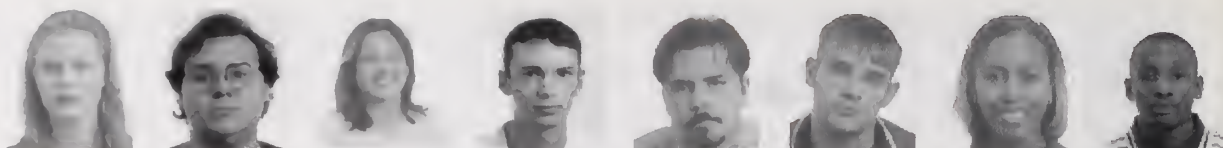
When asked about her life philosophy, Howey answered, "To help people wherever I can and to make people feel better. Physical Therapy is not only my goal but, what I want to do and also what I love to do. My Physical Therapy job is very rewarding. I get to see people go from not being able to walk or move, to being functional, feeling good, and, most of all, smiling."

Howey also adds that there is a little saying that she keeps in mind about helping people: "You don't have to put out someone else's candle to make yours brighter. I like to think that I do that to make people around me better, and that, in turn, makes me shine brighter." 





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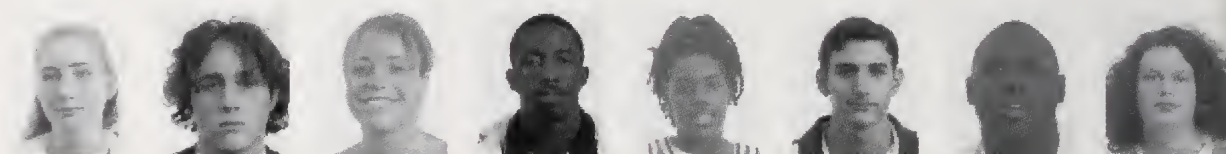
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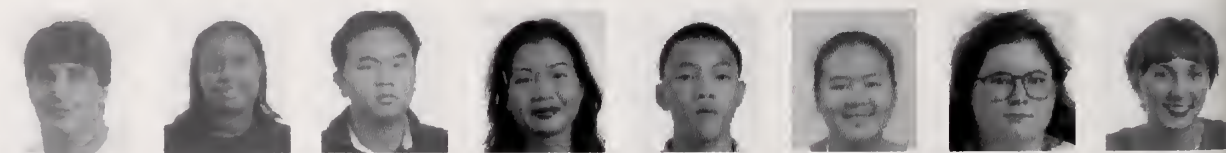
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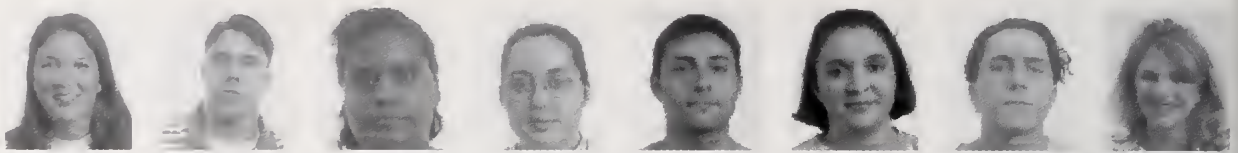
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Carmen, Jessica L  
Carmichael, Kimberly  
Carmon, Alana A  
Carmouche, Christine A







# JAMES DAUTERIVE

Ever wish you could escape from the dreaded income tax return? Well, James Dauterive enjoys helping people "figure" out how to do this. Speaking of 'figures,' that is exactly what this accounting major deals with everyday. "I feel that I have always had a natural knack for accounting."

Dauterive has proven his passion for accounting through his continuing involvement in his major. Serving as President of Alpha Beta, Dauterive plans to participate in MDA telephone tabulations, tutoring programs for other accounting students, VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance), and raffles to establish scholarship funds. But probably the most time consuming extracurricular activity that Dauterive is involved in is petitioning of the local chapter of Beta Alpha Psi, which is a nationally recognized Accounting Society community service organization.

But don't think that Dauterive stops there. Soon to begin an internship, he works part-time as an entry level accountant at Darnell Sikes and Frederick CPA firm. You may occasionally catch him jogging, biking, or swimming when not busy with his job.

As recipient of the SGA and Jack Jones Memorial Scholarship, Dauterive is grateful and determined to continue his education. "The money will never stop me either way, whether it's from scholarship funding or if I have to borrow it. I'm not going to let that stand in the way." Planning to graduate in December of 1998, Dauterive states, "I'm going to study hard and work hard."

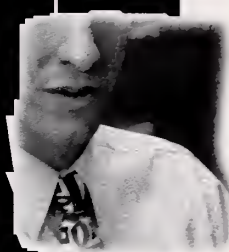
Most of Dauterive's life was spent in Lafayette, but in sixth grade, he got a taste of Arizona. But because of his mother's new engagement, he and his family moved to California. After spending most of his teen years just south of Los Angeles, his family returned to Lafayette. Dauterive said the job market in California began to decline, therefore causing his family to move.

He returned to Lafayette at the beginning of his junior year, but, after his junior year, he decided to return to California because he missed his friends and the California lifestyle. Although he moved in with his older brother, Dauterive learned quickly how to survive in the real world. Dauterive was financially on his own and held several jobs. Over some time, Dauterive rearranged his priorities by returning to Lafayette to attend college.

Dauterive's main priorities are school, work, and his wife. About a year ago, the New Iberia native, married USL nursing graduate, Carol Prejean. Mrs. Dauterive works at Lafayette General and Women's and Children's Hospital where she has the pleasure of helping to deliver babies.

Dauterive mentions how funny it is because his birthday is April 16th and Carol's birthday is April 15th, which happens to be tax day! The two have been extremely supportive of each other's education funding. "Whenever I'm done with school, I hope to be able to support her and send her back to school so she can get her master's degree."

M





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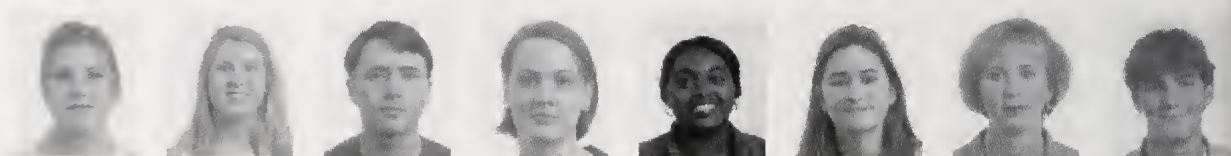
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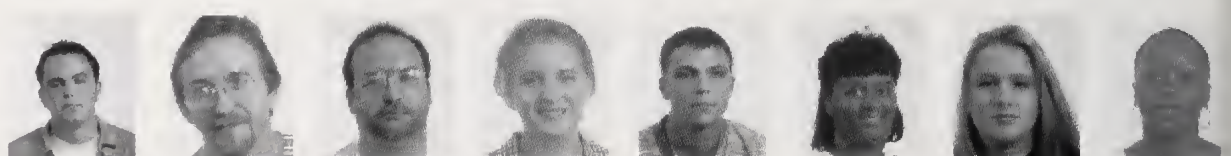
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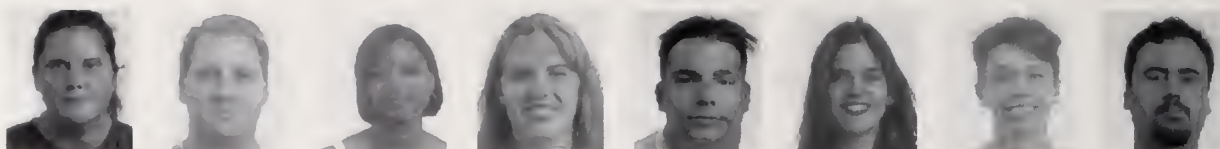
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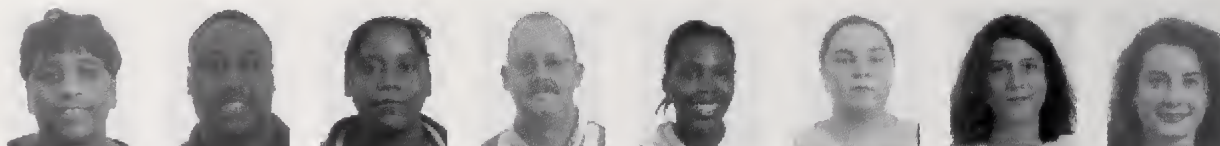
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Comeaux, Laura M







# MONIQUE LEATHEM

Ever felt like you were living in the wrong time or the wrong place? Monique Leathem has. Leathem is a 23-year-old senior, majoring in history.

"I had a lot of majors. I believe six, but I really enjoy history," she said.

Leathem is the daughter of Theresa Hayes. "I really feel like my mom has truly been a guiding influence in my life. She had to take over the role of mother and father when my dad passed away. She has always been there no matter what I do or did. I am really going to miss her when I leave for California after graduation."

Leathem is going to California to pursue her interest in movies. "I love old movies and old music. My favorite singer is Barbara Streisand. Sometimes I feel like I should have been born sooner. Sometimes I feel as if I want to hop to the future and do something with my life. I do not want to live in the past, but yet, I want to bring the past to the present," she said.

"I do not have much time to myself, but when I do have it, I like to write poetry. These are just thoughts that are in my head that I want to get on paper. I never show them to anyone; it is my little private collection."

Leathem also likes to travel. "I have been to Europe, New York, California several times," she said. "I have family there, even though I am from Lafayette."

Leathem's love of movies increased when she had the opportunity to be on the production team of "Uncle Sidney and the Mexicans," a locally-produced film. "I kinda had my hands in everything," she said. "I also got to experience actors trying to work with

helicopters and trucks, which were donated to the film by local businesses and companies.

"An interesting part of the job was that I had to beg surrounding businesses to donate food to feed the crew," she commented. "Surprisingly, I got pretty good at it. Helping with a movie is something I always wanted to do and thought I might as well do it while I had the chance. I love the movies, and I hope to get involved in the movies as a career maybe," Leathem said.

Leathem first attended LSU before coming to USL. "I find that USL is a much friendlier school," she said. "It is also smaller and closer to home. USL does not deserve the reputation it has for being a party school. USL is a fine school; it has great professors and a very caring campus. That in itself is hard to find nowadays."

One of Leathem's influences on campus has been Dr. Gloria Fiero. "She encouraged me academically by telling me to set my goals high and to fulfill my potential. I went from being a student who never asked questions and was always really drawn back to a student who asks questions and enjoys class."

The professors helped me realize that they were people too. They treated me as an adult and not as a child. I have really enjoyed my experience here at USL," Leathem said.

Leathem is an eager-to-get-involved type of person who is gearing up for many more great changes and developments in her life. She is a person with a strong sense of direction and a great deal of ambition. These qualities will help her to make it big in the movie scene.





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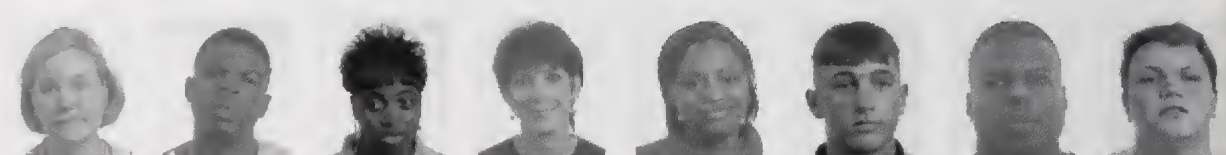
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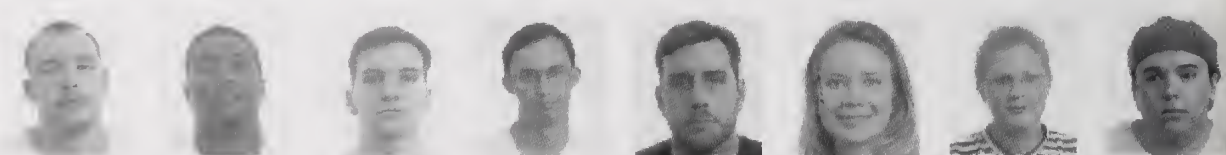
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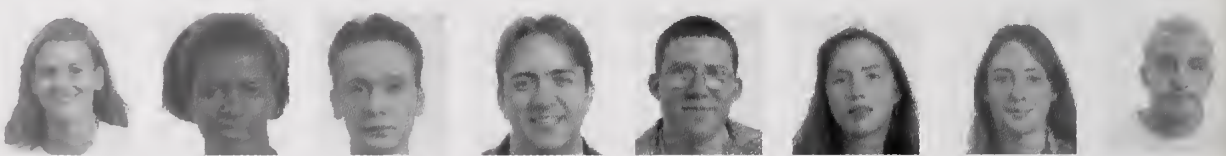
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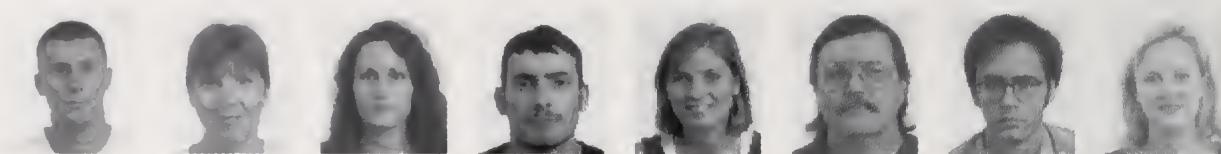
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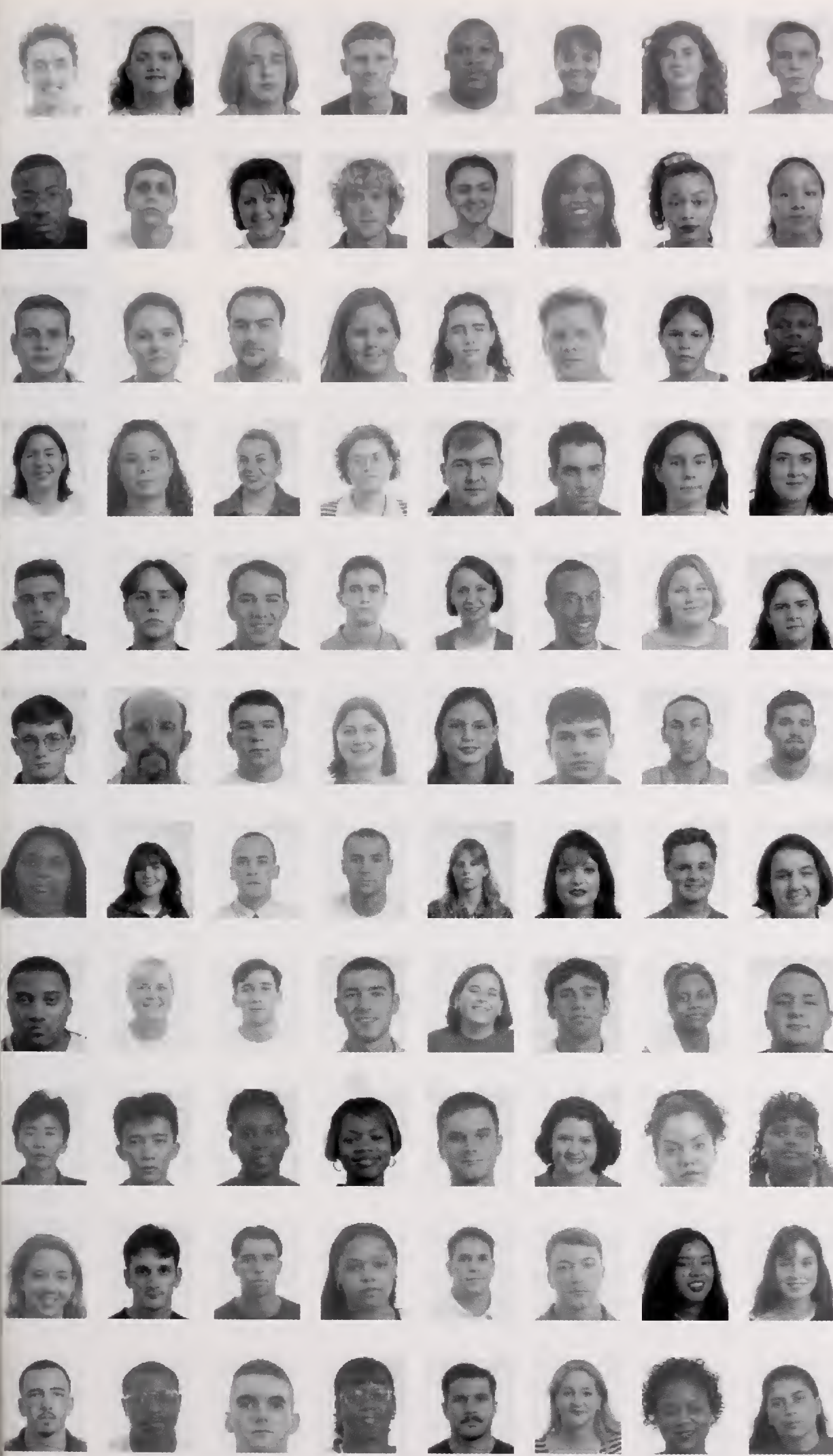
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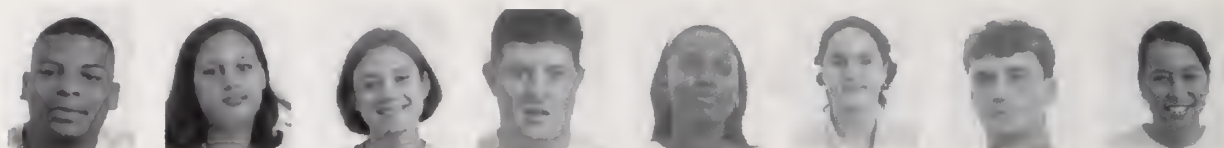




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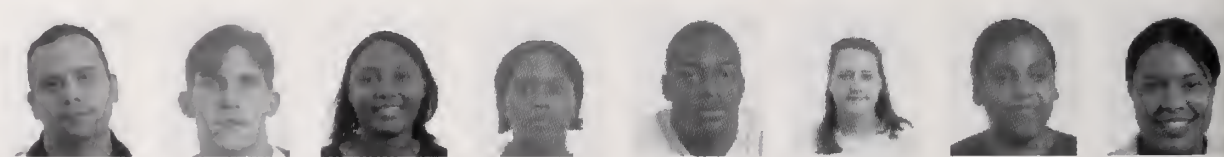
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# PAUL ROCHON

The next time you see Paul Rochon's name, it may be in an article stating that a cure has been found for one of the many infectious diseases that affect humanity. Rochon is both a microbiology and chemistry major. His main goal is to finish the MD and Ph.D. program.

This program involves medical scientist training and takes between seven and nine years to complete. Rochon says that he would like to touch both aspects of clinical medicine and research medicine. He has always had a desire for medicine, working with people, and working in a laboratory. And with his work experience, Rochon has solidified his decision to work in the medical field.

Rochon completed an internship at the the Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease. This lab specializes in parasitic diseases, which means that Rochon was dealing with such diseases as malaria. "It was interesting to work in a lab where all information on world health comes in."

When Rochon was younger, he always said that he was going to be a doctor. Then while in high school, his father became very ill from a disease. The physicians had a difficult time diagnosing him because this disease was so rare. This pulled Rochon closer to the thought of research medicine.

Ever since, Rochon has wanted to find out cures for infectious diseases. "Now, I may not find the cure for AIDS or something like that, but I would like to play an important role of finding a cure for some infectious disease in the future."

Rochon definitely keeps himself busy. If he hasn't been your chemistry tutor here at USL, then you may have seen him fulfilling his

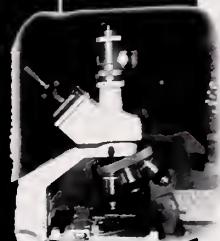
part-time job in the produce department of Winn Dixie.

Rochon also remains active with the music department. In high school, he was the drum major for two years. Even now he remains involved by devoting his summers to instructing Carencro High School's marching band. He enjoys guiding his younger brother who has also taken up his love for music.

As far as being involved at USL, Rochon is a member of several organizations. These include the Premedical Society, Newman Club, Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Lambda Delta, Gamma Beta Phi, Phi Eta Sigma, and Alpha Phi Alpha. Rochon participated in the Collegiate Scholars Bowl and took first place in the southwest region. He has been doing research in the ImmunoBiology lab since he was a freshman. Some of his projects in the lab have led him to presenting preliminary studies at National Microbiology Conventions.

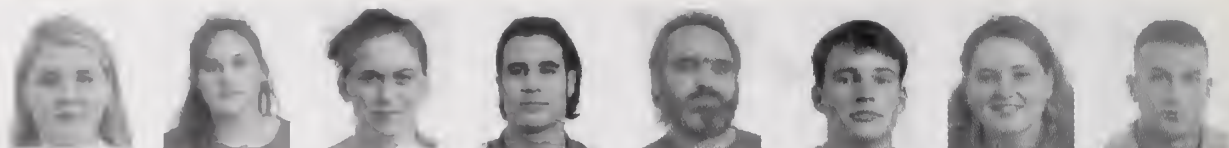
One day, Rochon would like to have his own laboratory. He would like to work in a clinical setting, where he could channel his research and discoveries made in the lab to clinical patients. "I possibly could serve as a bridge for both the clinical and research aspect. I may be able to find a connection so that the possibility of finding a cure would be beneficial to us," Rochon said.

Hopefully, Rochon will be given the chance to write an honors thesis for his research. "You are the one that needs to make your own path. You have your dream and that dream can possibly create your path. You don't necessarily have to follow someone else's dream," he said. **M**





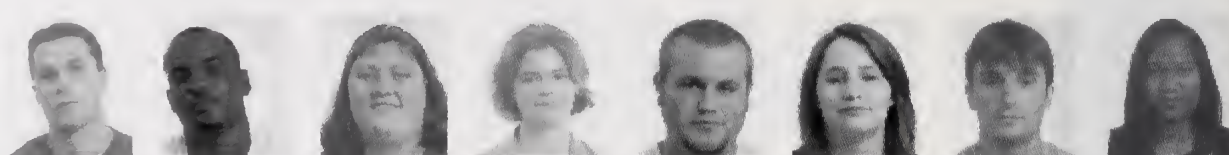
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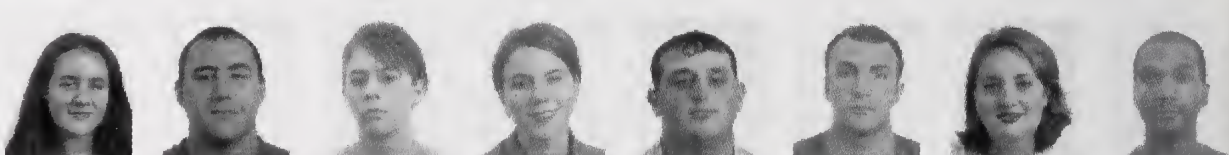
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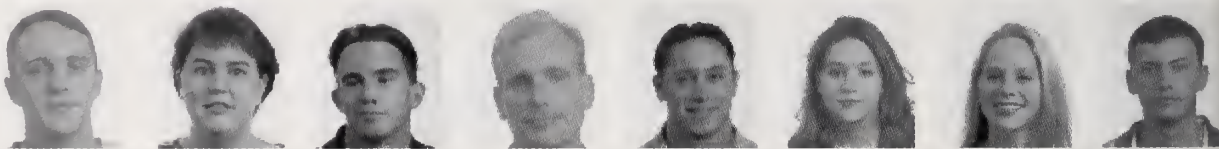
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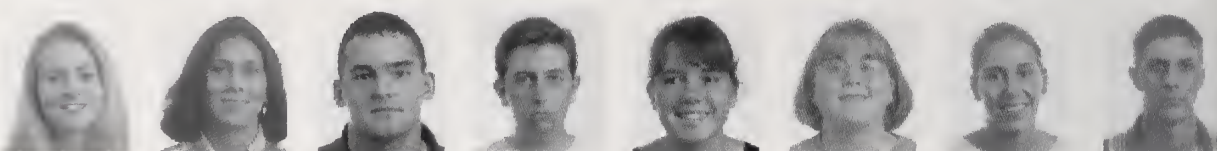
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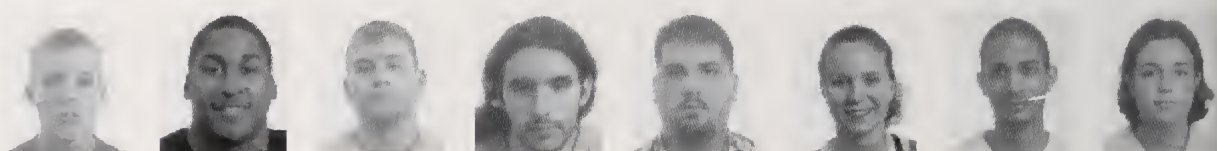
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# SAMANTHA SYLVESTER

Samantha Sylvester decided to go into nursing after taking care of a sick neighbor. Her friend, unfortunately, was a hemophiliac and contracted the HIV virus after a blood transfusion. Sylvester constantly gave him treatments, but did not mind taking time to help out her friend.

Every summer, Sylvester volunteers at Camp Heartland, a camp for children who have the HIV virus. There are usually 300 kids that attend annually, and there are several activities that the children are able to participate in. "The kids at camp have a blast! They live life to the fullest. They don't waste time on the little things," she said. Sylvester has also been active in getting the word out about Camp Heartland. This summer, she has traveled to 11 different states to guide and provide information to other camps. "We need more camps because the kids need them. . . and the more kids we get to camp, the better," Sylvester said.

Family is a huge part in Sylvester's life. Her parents have been very patient and supportive of all that Sylvester does. She has two sisters, and one is also in the nursing program at USL. But even though both are interested in the same field, they are going in different directions. Sylvester's sister is planning on being a nurse practitioner. She would like to deal more with the paperwork and administrative side, while Sylvester is planning to focus more on the patients.

"I'd love to go work at the National Institute of Health or another large hospital. I'm going to specialize in pediatric AIDS, so I probably will not be able to stay in Lafayette. It will be hard

because I don't want to leave my family, but I have to . . . I really can't see myself doing anything else," she said.

Sylvester was greatly influenced by her neighbor who is a nurse. She was able to learn from her what daily routines nurses must go through. Sylvester says that sometimes nurses don't know a child's background, so they may not give the best medications for the child. Sylvester's dream is to open a home health agency. This will allow trained nurses to go into different areas and know how to take care of each individual child differently, depending on their needs.

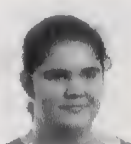
Sylvester definitely keeps herself busy with work, school, and other involvements. She is very thankful because her job has been very supportive of her busy schedule. Sylvester was able to keep up her grades because she knew that she had to do well in order to help out with camp in the summer. "Sometimes I wonder what I'd be like if I did not go to camp. . . What would I be doing?"

Sylvester started an AIDS awareness program at Sacred Heart Christian Academy, and is certified by the Red Cross to teach HIV and AIDS education. "Eventually I may get into doing more with educating people, but I just don't have the time right now." Occasionally you can spot Sylvester reading a novel or skating, but whatever it may be, Sylvester remains busy. "Sometimes I just stop and think of all that I do. I never think of it as not being normal. I just do it. It's who I am." **M**

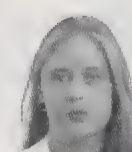




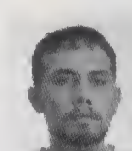
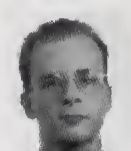
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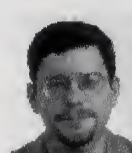
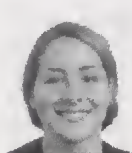
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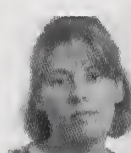
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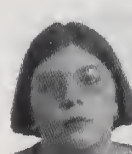
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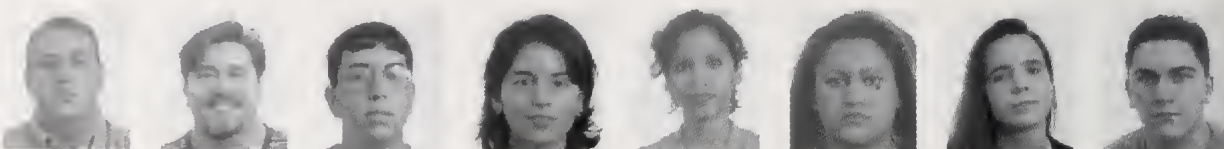
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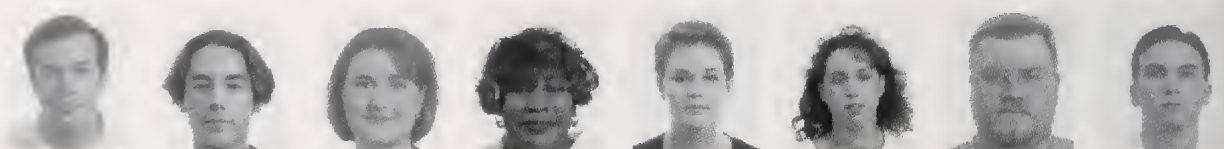
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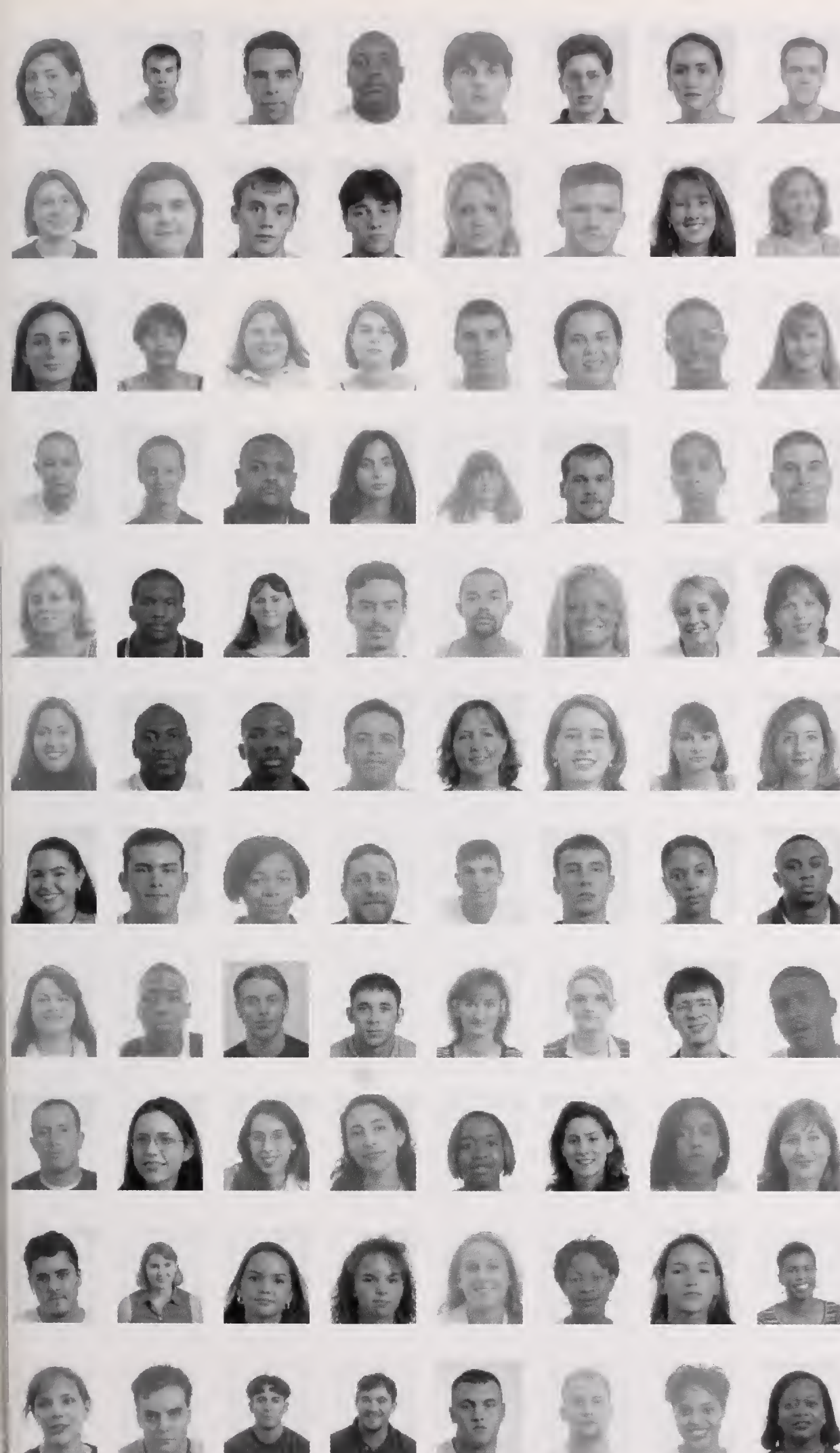
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# KEVIN COX

Compassion and a desire to work with patients on a one-to-one basis compelled Kevin Cox to switch his major from premed to nursing.

The Lafayette native and graduate of Lafayette High (class of '91) will become a USL graduate in December of 1997. Where he will put his degree to work is still up in the air. "I would like to stay here. I thought about being a traveling nurse—travel around the country to different places and see what health care is like in different places. It would be a good opportunity to advance myself and learn a lot more," Cox said.

Three years in premed convinced Cox that nursing was where his future lay. "I was in premed for three years. That explains why I've been here so long," he said with a laugh. "I worked at the emergency room at Lafayette General, where I work now. And, I really saw the difference between medicine and being a nurse. The nurse gets more patient care; the doctor has to see 500 different people. The (nurses) get your five or six people, and those are the people you really get to take care of. You get to spend a lot of time with them and build a personal relationship."

Working in the emergency room was an interesting experience for Cox. "It's very exciting, and it's always something different. It's not the same stuff that you're exposed to all the time," Cox explained. The frenzied pace and need to make instant decisions isn't a problem for him. "I'm pretty calm. It doesn't bother me, blood squirting on me; it never has. The nurses down there tell me I've got the kind of personality to work in a high stress kind of area," he said.

Cox describes emergency room nursing, for some nurses, as "finding your niche. Once you find it, you don't want to get out of it." He finds nursing itself to be an excellent field of endeavor. "It's a really caring profession, and I think it's a great service that you can do for someone who is sick. Because, when you're sick, you feel at your absolute worst, and you don't want to talk to anyone. You don't want to see anyone. All these people come into your room and do all these things to you.

"Some patients have told me that some nurses come in and don't even talk to them. That hurts me; but at the same time, I can only make myself more available to those people and spend more time with them. And there's ways you can do that," Cox said.

Nursing isn't just a job to Cox, it's a calling. "Nursing is a profession. It's kinda of a fire that comes from within. It's a vocation. Just as much as any other vocation, I think. Because if you don't care about people, I think you're in the wrong business," Cox stated.

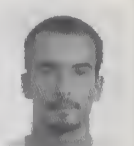
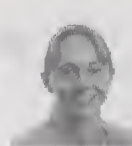
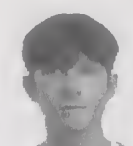
The passion for health care comes from within Cox, and it is inspired by his grandfather. "My grandfather has been one of the biggest inspirations in my life. My family is real close, and my grandfather was an old-timey doctor. He was the only doctor in Assumption Parish for 30 something years. He was a general surgeon, and he delivered everybody. He's the coroner in Assumption Parish now. He's in his 80s, and he's tireless. He says it makes him feel young when he buries somebody he delivered," Cox said laughing with delight. "Sometimes, people paid him in crops. I always admired that about medicine."

LADY OF WISDOM  
CHURCH

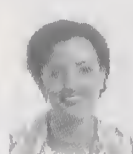




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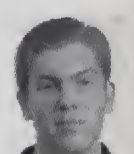
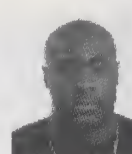
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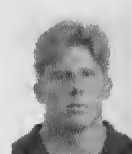
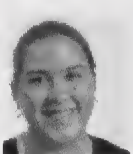
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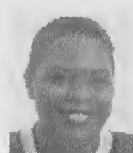
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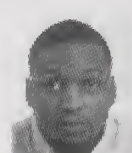
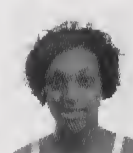
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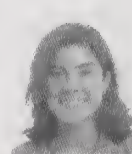
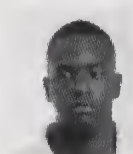
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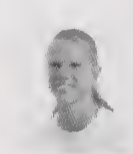
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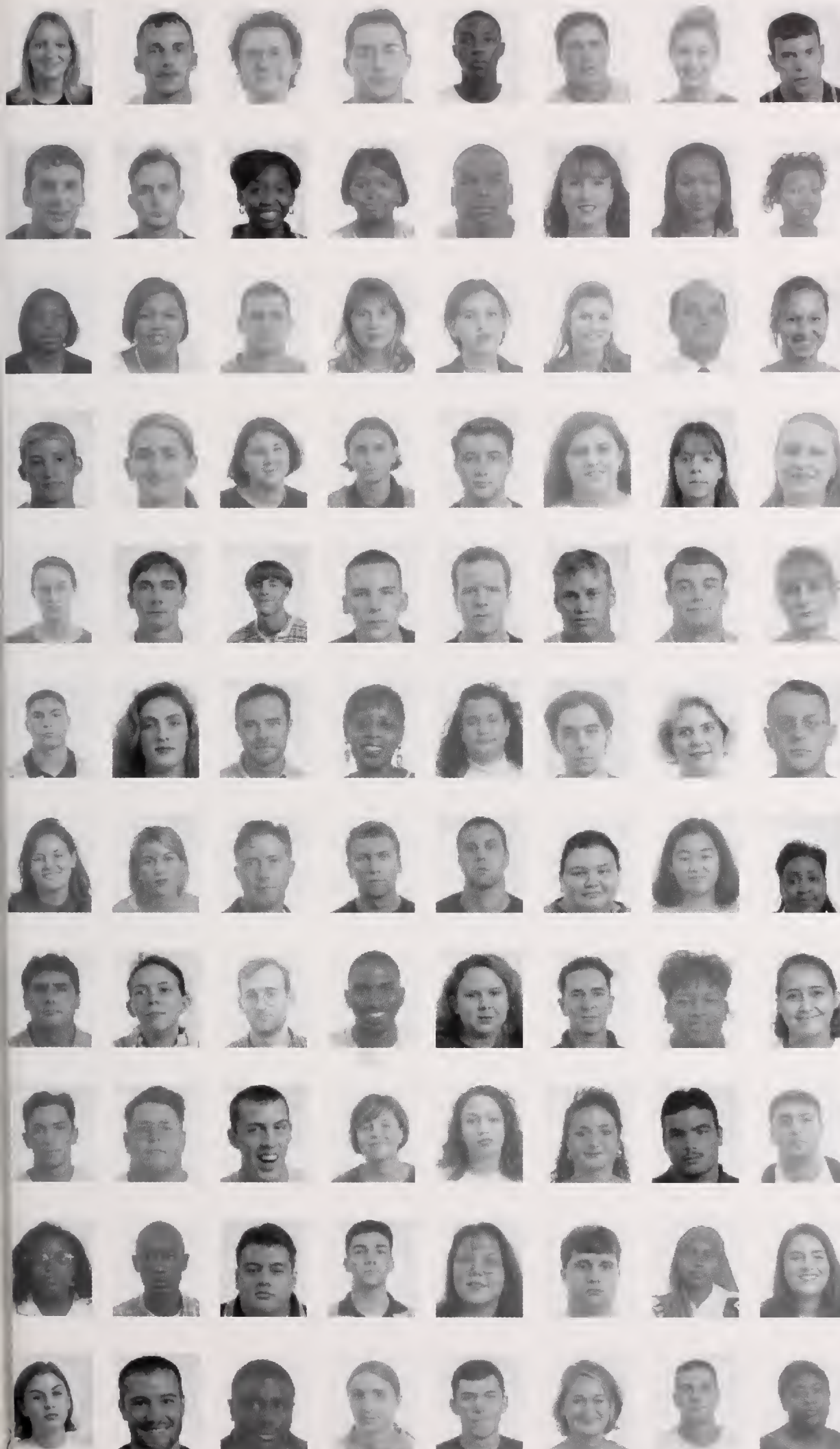
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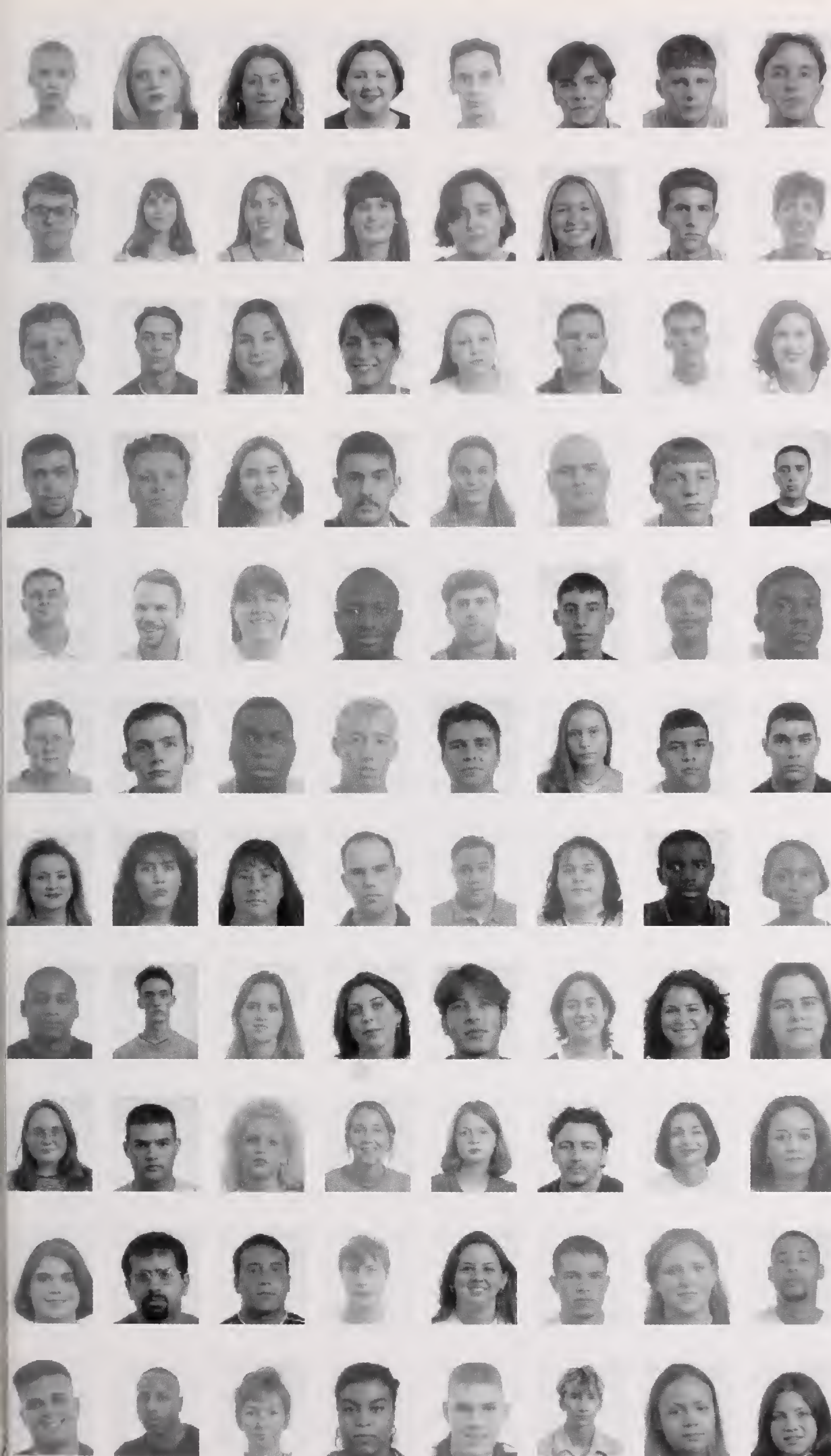
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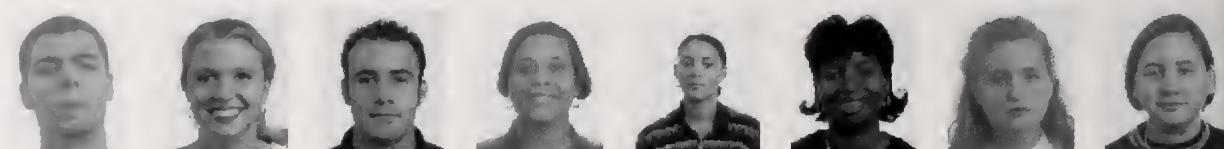
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# MICHAEL CELESTIN

Michael D. Celestin Jr. describes himself as being, "very serious when it gets down to business."

A 22-year-old Interpersonal and Public Communications major, Celestin has gotten down to a lot of business. Since coming to USL, he has become involved in numerous organizations which help to serve both the Lafayette area and the university.

Celestin has been active with the USL Student Orientation Staff since 1993, helping the thousands of first time freshmen become acclimated to the USL campus. He is also a member of the USL Parking and Appeals Committee. These are the people you go to that decide whether or not you really need to pay your parking tickets.

Celestin has served as chairman of the World Culture Committee of the USL Union Program Council. He has also been selected for the AmeriCorps Scholars of Acadiana Service Organization. This is a group that serves the Lafayette community through tutoring.

Celestin is also a three-year member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. He is a proud member, who speaks very highly of his fraternity, as he was quick to proclaim, "Alpha Phi Alpha is the light of the world!"

Celestin came to USL from the New Orleans area. He graduated from Edna Karr Magnet High School. His parents are Michael and Sheryl Celestin, and he is the brother of

Russell and Toni Celestin.

Although he claims he has no free time, when Celestin is fortunate enough to have some, he likes to play pool, basketball, and listen to music. Among Celestin's favorite types of music are jazz, R&B, and rap. More importantly, Celestin is always ready to volunteer for service organizations when needed. When asked how he felt about USL, Celestin simply answered, "I love this place!"

Celestin only has two complaints about USL. First of all, he says, "In my opinion, I feel that the university makes it very hard for students to graduate in their major field, pushing them to graduate studies. However, I do understand that individual merit must be acknowledged as a factor." Not uncommon among other students at USL, his only other complaint is the parking situation on campus. Celestin feels that the parking on campus is "atrocious to the needs of convenience." Many students are quick to agree with Celestin on this issue.

People who know Celestin find that he is a kind, outgoing person with a good sense of humor. He also describes himself as being very conservative. Despite all of his involvements on campus and in the community, and being outgoing and authoritative in times of business, Celestin still feels that when it comes down to it, he is a shy person. *M*





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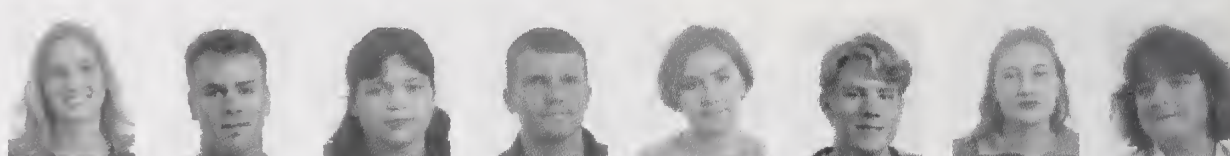
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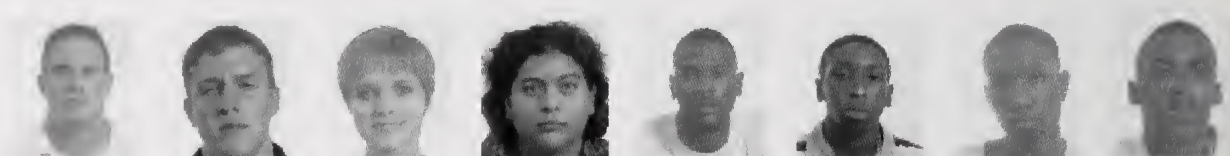
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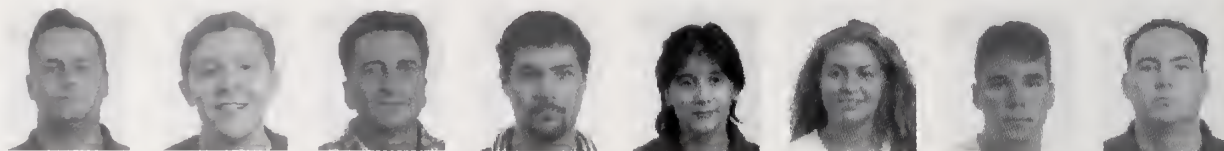
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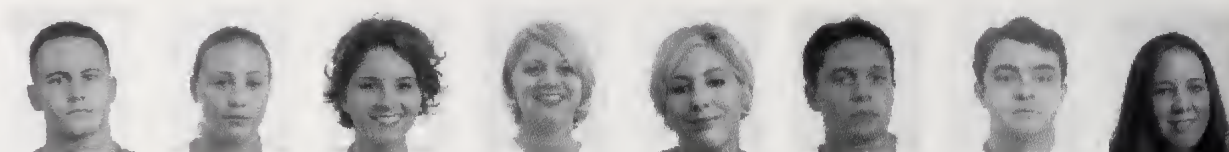
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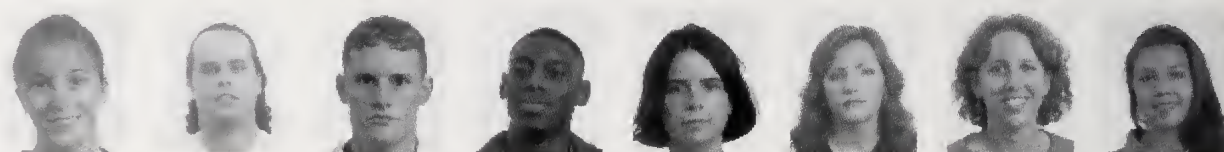
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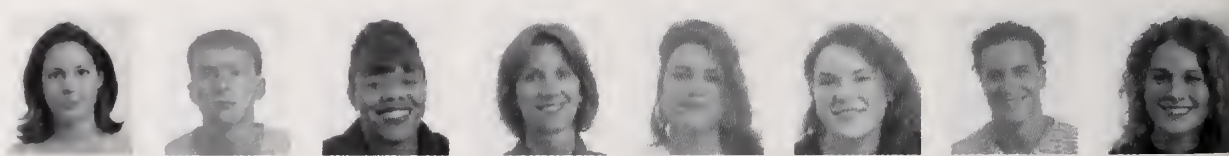
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# DANNY DEVILLIER

**"D**on't burn any bridges, because you always need your connections," said Danny Devillier. "Especially in the music business or entertainment industry—It's so hard to make a name for yourself." Devillier is a graduate student majoring in music composition. He believes that success is ninety percent who you know and ten percent what you can do.

A percussionist, Devillier can often be found playing the drums, or even the guitar and piano. Devillier has played with the Jazz Ensemble since his freshman year. He explains that there are many different "bands" at the school. Sometimes when people talk about "the band," they are referring to the "marching band." But actually there are several bands, such as the wind ensemble, jazz, and percussion, for whom Devillier writes and plays. He also enjoys helping coordinate concerts for the theatre and dance department. Devillier wrote music for such productions as "The Big Bang" and "Guernica."

Devillier's inspiration came from a couple of guys in his neighborhood when growing up. All of the guys played the drums and Devillier thought to himself, "I've got to do that," whenever he'd see them perform. Since the third grade, Devillier knew that playing the drums is what he wanted to do. "And the more I got into it, the more people influenced me—such as my high school band director."

After graduation, Devillier taught a few music classes. He decided that teaching would be a supplementary income for him.

He respects those that can teach music.

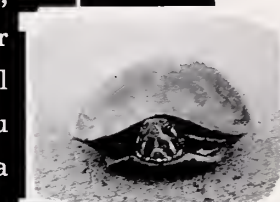
"Personally I don't have the patience to keep up with that kind of work. It takes a special person."

Devillier does continue to write music for himself and others. Aside from school, Devillier plays and writes for the Megatron Jones, jazz gigs, weddings, and events around town. "Except for eating and sleeping, my whole day is basically nothing but music. It's weird because it just totally consumes me."

The USL music department is actually very small compared to some of the other universities, and Devillier says that is a true advantage for the students. "The chance of your material becoming exposed is so much greater than if you were in a bigger department. There is always a chance to have something of yours played."

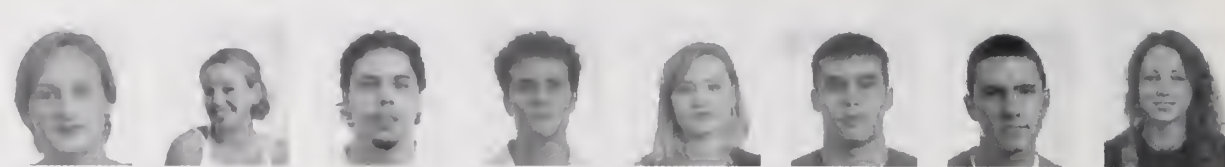
Devillier's main writing interest is film scoring. "I don't get to do much of it because there aren't film camps around." But Devillier remains very interested in the media aspect. He would love to be able to work with music videos. "I think that is my one writing passion. I'd like to see myself doing that in the future."

A Lafayette native, Devillier said his family has been supportive of his interest in music, although other members of his family have not had a large interest in playing or writing music. "No one in my family plays an instrument or has any musical talent, so I really don't know where I get it from."





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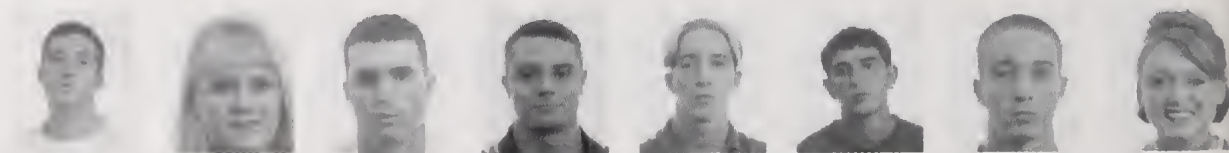
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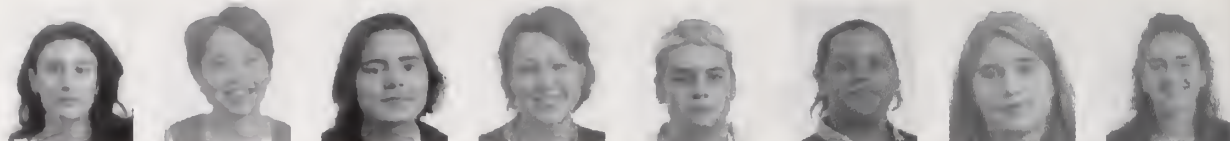
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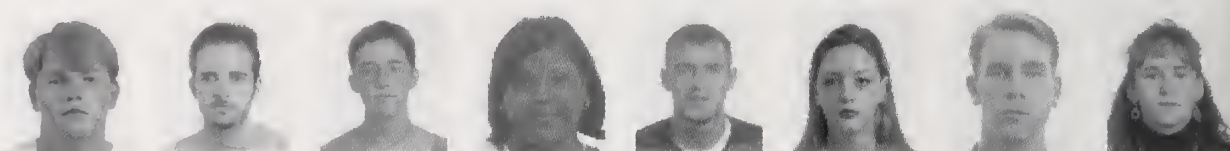
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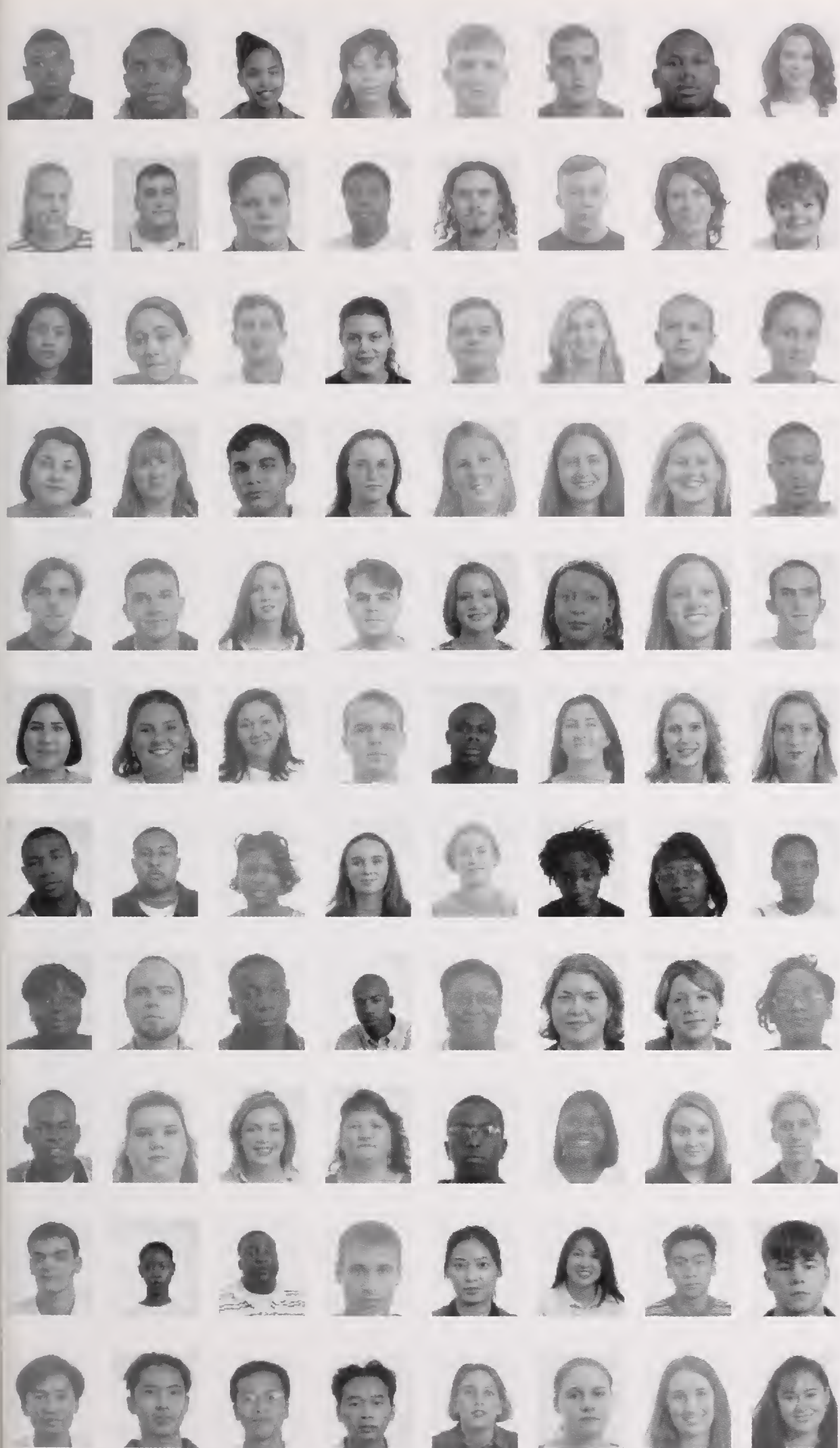
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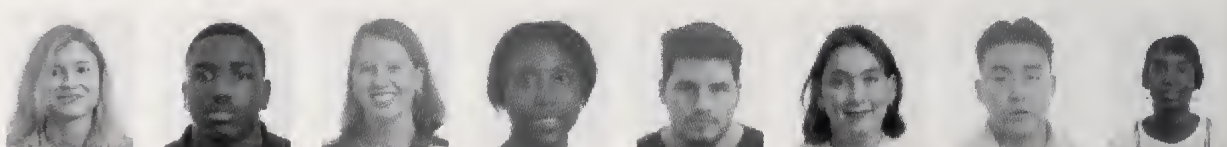
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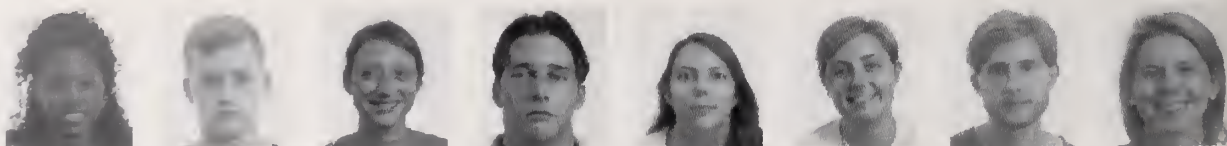
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Hotard, Traci E







# JOY BLANCHARD

When one first speaks to Joy Blanchard, the tone in her voice gives a great first impression. Her name itself says it all. She is a joy to listen to and a joy to talk to. At 19, she has a wonderful sense of direction in her life and an outstanding viewpoint on it as well.

This St. Martinville native is majoring in French education with a minor in Journalism. Why French Education? "It was kind of like a calling," she said. "I always knew that I wanted to be a teacher. I know that in the classroom is where I could make a difference. I not only want to teach French to give the children a second language so that they can compete in the business world, but just to teach them about life."

"I've had so many wonderful teachers that have inspired me and I know that teachers today are mentors and friends. That's what I want to do."

Blanchard's plans for the near future are ambitious, to say the least. "I want to get into administration and pursue my doctorate in education." After she's finished her doctorate, Blanchard wants to teach for a few years and maybe become a principal.


"You see so many people who don't believe that it's (education) important, and, later on in life, they regret it. It's so that we encourage children to take every opportunity that they have and to utilize every tool that is placed in front of them so that, when they get older, they don't just have one thing to choose from. They have career opportunities and doors that are left to be opened. They can realize that they have potential," she added. Getting her education does play

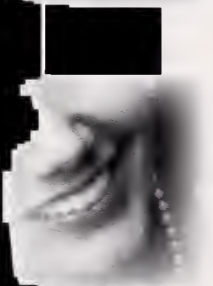
a significant role in Blanchard's life, but she also actively participates in a lot of activities. Blanchard is the SGA President of Education, is on the Honors Board, and is one of USL's representatives to the State Board. Her honors organizations include Alpha Lambda Delta, Kappa Delta Pi, Gamma Beta Phi, the Vermilion Honors Society, and the Society of Professional Journalists.

Her community services include being a lector at her church, and volunteering for America's Junior Miss Program, which is a scholarship program for female high school students, and she is St. Martinville's Pepper Queen.

And she has part-time jobs. "I was an aerobics instructor, and I used to freelance for the *Advertiser*, and was a private French tutor. A jack-of-all trades, you could say." Blanchard manages her time, she says, by not sleeping. "During the semester, seriously, I sleep maybe two hours. Then on Friday nights, I catch up on my sleep. I'm just a hyper person! I fit my name quite well. I find that the more I do, the better I manage my time. The more I do, the more it motivates me."

"I think USL is quite amazing because you walk across campus and you see familiar faces, and it's just nice because you're not a number. The more you get involved, the more people you meet."

"I always dreamed of being a teacher and a principal. Now, it's a near reality. I'd better make it happen now so that I can fulfill all of my dreams." 

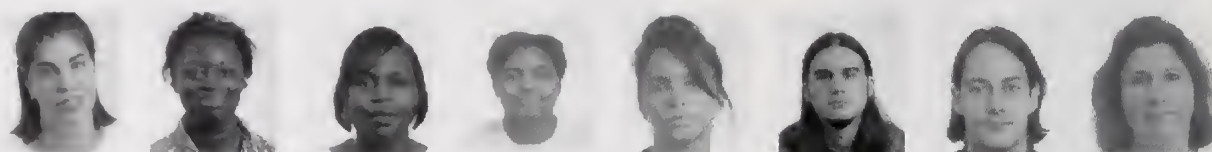




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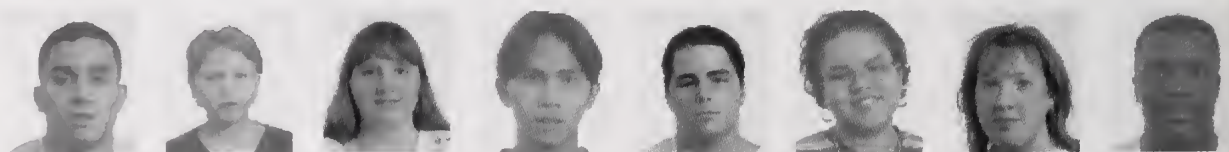
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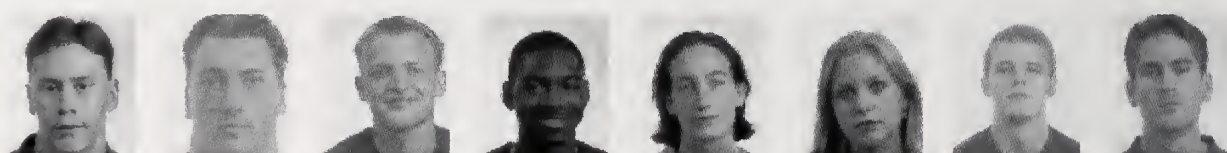
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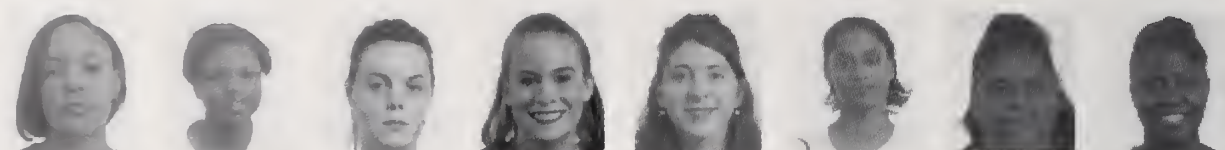
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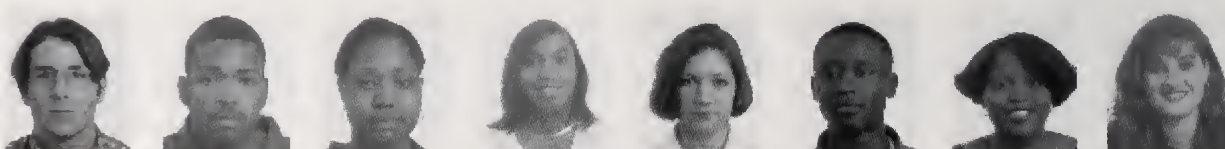
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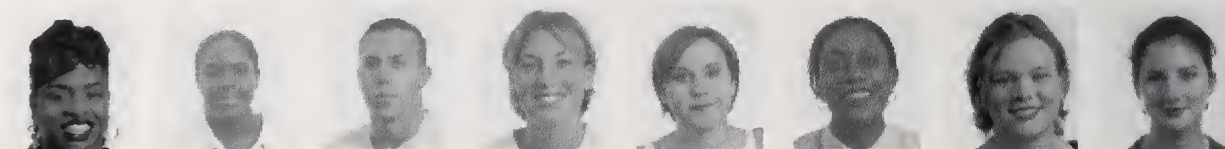
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# JEANNE FUSELIER

**D**on't be surprised if you see Jeanne Fuselier more than once on campus. Fuselier is a member of the Phi Mu sorority, and she is president of the panhellenic council, which is the government body of sororities.

"I really enjoy interacting with people in other sororties," she said. "I don't just like being secluded in my own sorority." Fuselier believes that the sororities are a great way to get to know other women as well as making new friends on campus. She also has participated in aroki retreats. An aroki is a RUSH counselor. Fuselier served as an aroki, but now as president, she is in charge of the aroki aspect of RUSH.

Cheerleading was another way that Fuselier stayed active with school. Although this year Fuselier had to give up cheerleading because of her involvement with the panhellenic council, she still manages to help out with cheerleading camps. She loves cheering and was able to teach six camps this summer.

"I think it is so interesting to teach younger kids something that I really love to do. I do though dread having to drive to Baton Rouge or Hammond, stay in dorms, and eat cafeteria food, but once I'm out there teaching the kids and really interacting with them, I really love it. I think that's why I'm going into teaching."


When Fuselier first started school at USL, she was majoring in the mass communications field in advertising and fashion merchandising, but now she is interested in secondary art education. She enjoys working with teenagers because she feels that they are a bit more receptive than younger kids. "Teenagers have a little

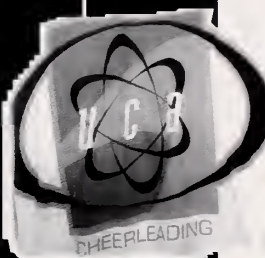
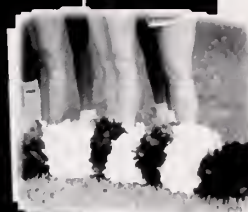
more control over their minds and are much more attentive than junior high kids. I love kids that are very involved and ask lots of questions."

Besides teaching, Fuselier has an affinity for art. So she has combined her two favorite things to make her perfect major. She loves to let her mind wander and she does this by painting and sculpting clay. "I feel a great loss for someone who has never let themselves go because it is so overwhelming. People who say they are not artistic just have not let that part of them out yet. And by saying that they are not good enough, these people are suppressing their artistic abilities."

In high school, even Fuselier believed that she had no artistic ability, but when she took a drawing class for her fashion merchandising major, she really surprised herself. At that point, she realized that she could draw well; she had just never let it come out.

Fuselier plans to graduate in a year or two, but she definitely is not ready to give up the classroom experience. "I love going to class and learning new things," she said. She is planning to get her master's degree in higher learning and may possibly be interested in teaching art history or art appreciation. She enjoys explaining the reasoning for colors used in a painting or what may have happened during a certain time period that may have influenced a painter.

Fuselier and her family are from Lafayette and spend a lot of time together. Fuselier also hopes that she can make a positive difference during her life. 





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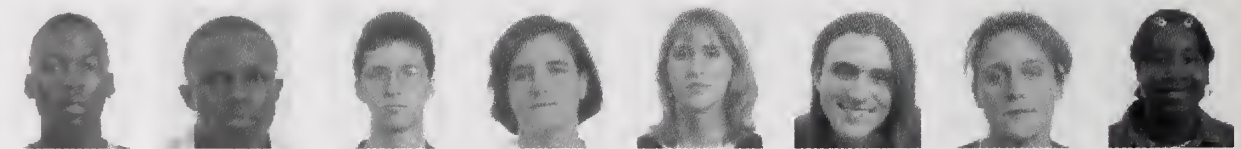
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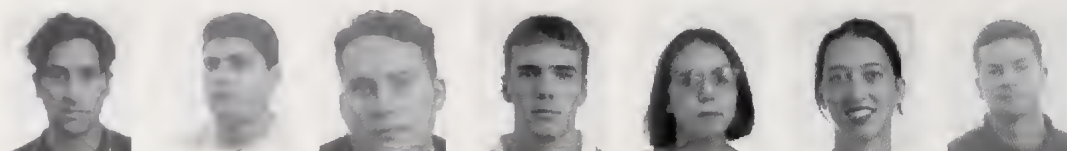
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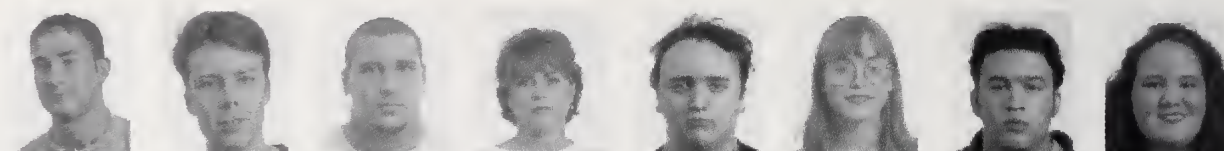
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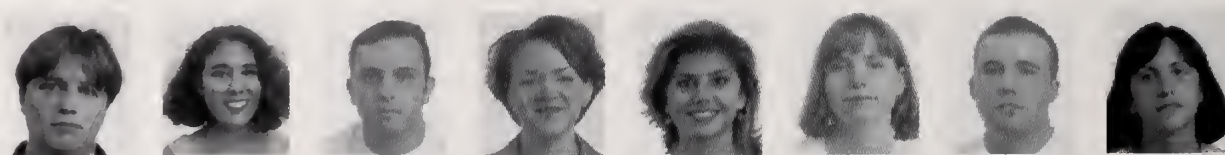
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# QUINTA THOMPSON

**B**usy seems to be Quinta Thompson's middle name. This twenty-year-old senior who is majoring in political science is a member of the SOS orientation committee, a dorm hall director, a member of the Resident Hall Association, and she volunteers with Acadiana Cares. An honor student, Thompson is also a member of the Newman Club. She has made a great change from being a busy high school student to an even busier college student.

Thompson attended New Iberia Senior High School. There, she participated in many clubs, including Beta, Honors, the Gifted and Talented program, Quiz Bowl, Literary Rally Team, and the French club. She was President of Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD), the Tabasco Relays Court, and was on the board for the Diocese of Lafayette.

"I was a busy little person," remarked Thompson. "In my spare time, which is something I do not have much of, I like to read, write, garden, bake, dance, and I am interested in photography and, of course, watch old movies and Star Trek. My favorite old movies are *Meet Me At St. Louis*, and *Sentential Journey*. Oh, and I also love musicals." She also enjoys the music of J.R. Richards and socializing.

"I love to talk to people. I guess that is why I love my residence hall job so much," she said. "It allows me to meet the people in the dorms. Also, it allows me the chance to meet the people of USL. I assume that is why I wanted to become a member

of the SOS orientation staff.

"I have been a member for two years now, and I have loved every minute of it."

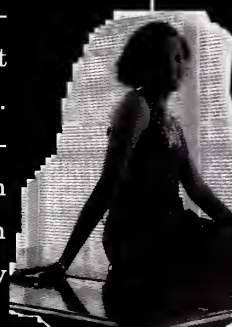
Thompson is the daughter of Curtis and Charlene Thompson. She has two sisters, Alfeda and LaVero. Both of her sisters and her mother all attended USL. So she is continuing in the family tradition of attending USL. "I love coming to the University of Southwestern Louisiana, and the campus is really friendly. Students get a great education at a reasonable price. However, I feel that the community college should not be run out of USL. They need their own campus somewhere else besides USL," commented Thompson.

Two people who have made an impression on Thompson's life are her grandmothers. "I would have to say my grandmothers are the biggest influence in my life. They both were hard working women who came from very rough backgrounds. They are very strong and independent women. They raised their families on their own.

"My grandmothers have taught their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren to have strong morals and to be better human beings. I love my grandmothers very, very much," Thompson said.

In terms of future plans, Thompson said she wants to become a very successful attorney and have her own practice. An ambitious and outgoing person with strong morals and beliefs, Thompson has a bright future ahead of her.

**M**





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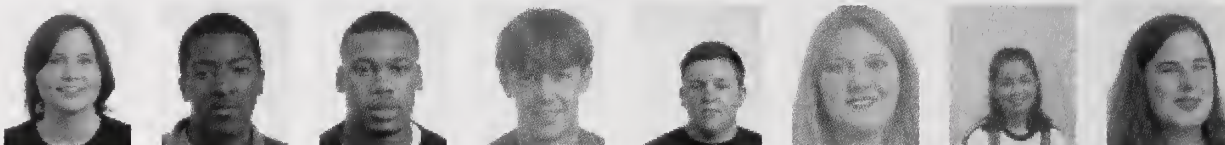
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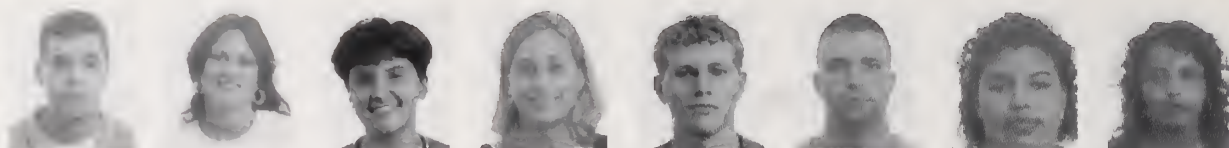
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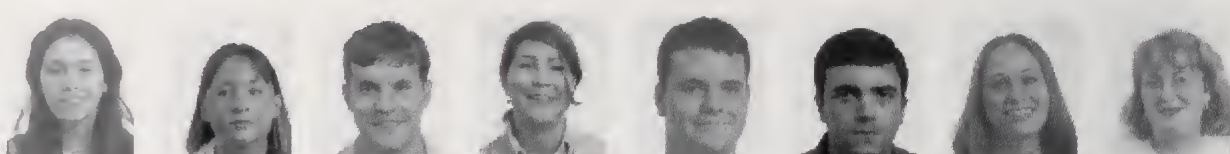
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# ANNA CLAIRE HUNDLEY

♦♦ I really love USL. There is no other place I'd rather be," said Anna Claire Hundley. Hundley's involvement at USL has increased since she changed her major. After starting out as a major in dietetics, Hundley realized that family studies was more to her liking.

"I've always been an average student, but since I love my major so much, it makes me want to learn more. I have been doing so much better," she said.

Hundley serves as president of her sorority, Kappa Delta. When she entered school, Hundley went through Rush. When it came time for her to pick up her invitation to see which sorority she had been selected to join, Hundley became too nervous. She wound up not even showing up. But when the next year rolled around, Hundley (with the help from friends) was able to overcome her nervousness and receive her invitation.

Ever since, Hundley has done nothing but prosper in her sorority. She had the good fortune of attending a leadership conference. There, she was able to realize the need for sororities be less competitive. Everyone was able to learn about each other's sorority and had a blast working together.

And, at USL, Hundley is a member of the Greek Honor Society and the Panhellenic Honor Society. Her main project for this year with the honor societies is to establish a leadership

conference in which any USL student can participate.

Besides being extremely involved with her sorority, Hundley may be found showing students the campus or directing people in the parking lots. She is a member of the student orientation staff and says that she has been able to meet people outside of the Greek system, people from different majors and backgrounds, and people who are attending USL for the first time. As for the parking directing, Hundley can be found at the Martin Hall parking lot booth. She says that it is a great job to have, and whenever it isn't busy, she is able to attend to her school work.

As far as Hundley's future is concerned, she intends on traveling to different colleges for her sorority. By doing this, she will visit the many chapters and give them ideas or help them with Rush. Since she will be visiting the different colleges, Hundley will be able to see what all the colleges have to offer. This will aide in her decision concerning graduate school.

Hundley has been supported by her family all the way. She is very close to them and can't wait to have a family of her own one day. Eventually, Hundley would like to work as a Greek affairs assistant or advisor. "The administration here at USL is so amazing. They have really inspired me to work with college kids."

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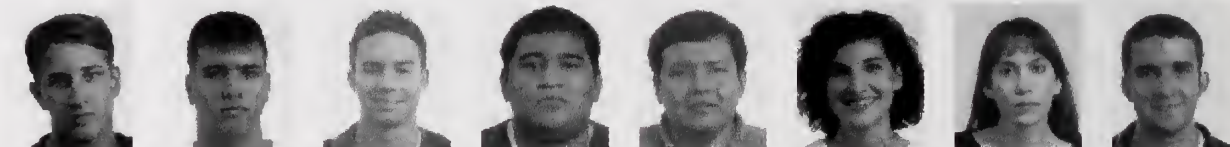
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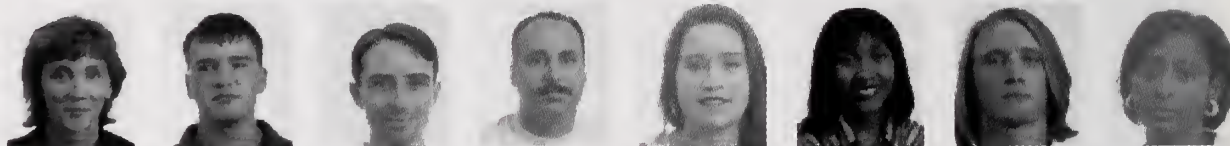
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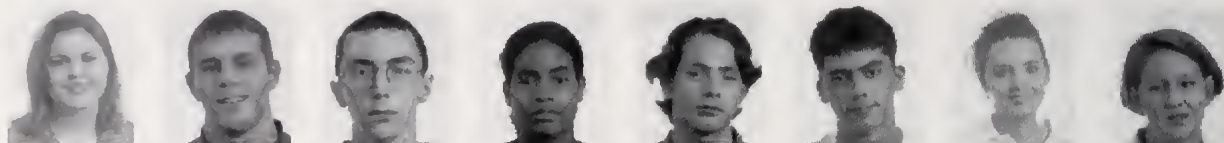
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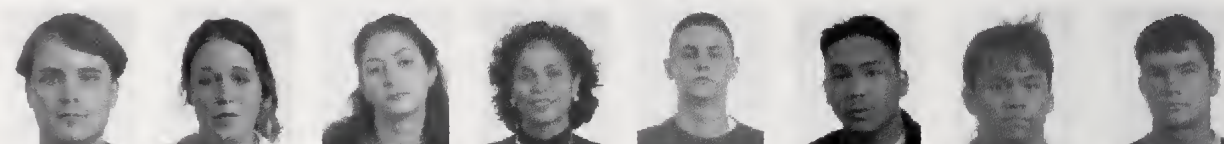
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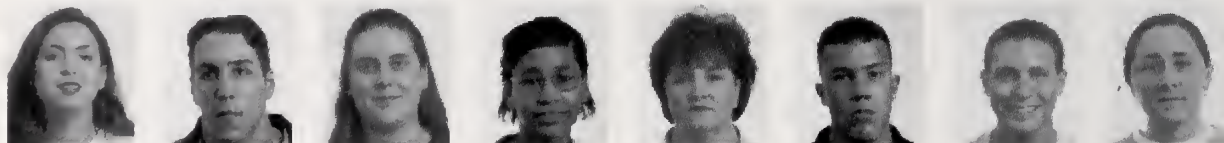
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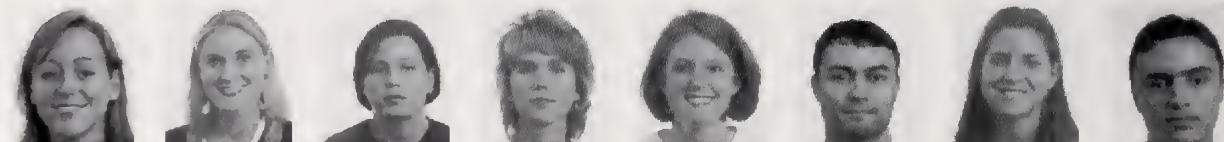
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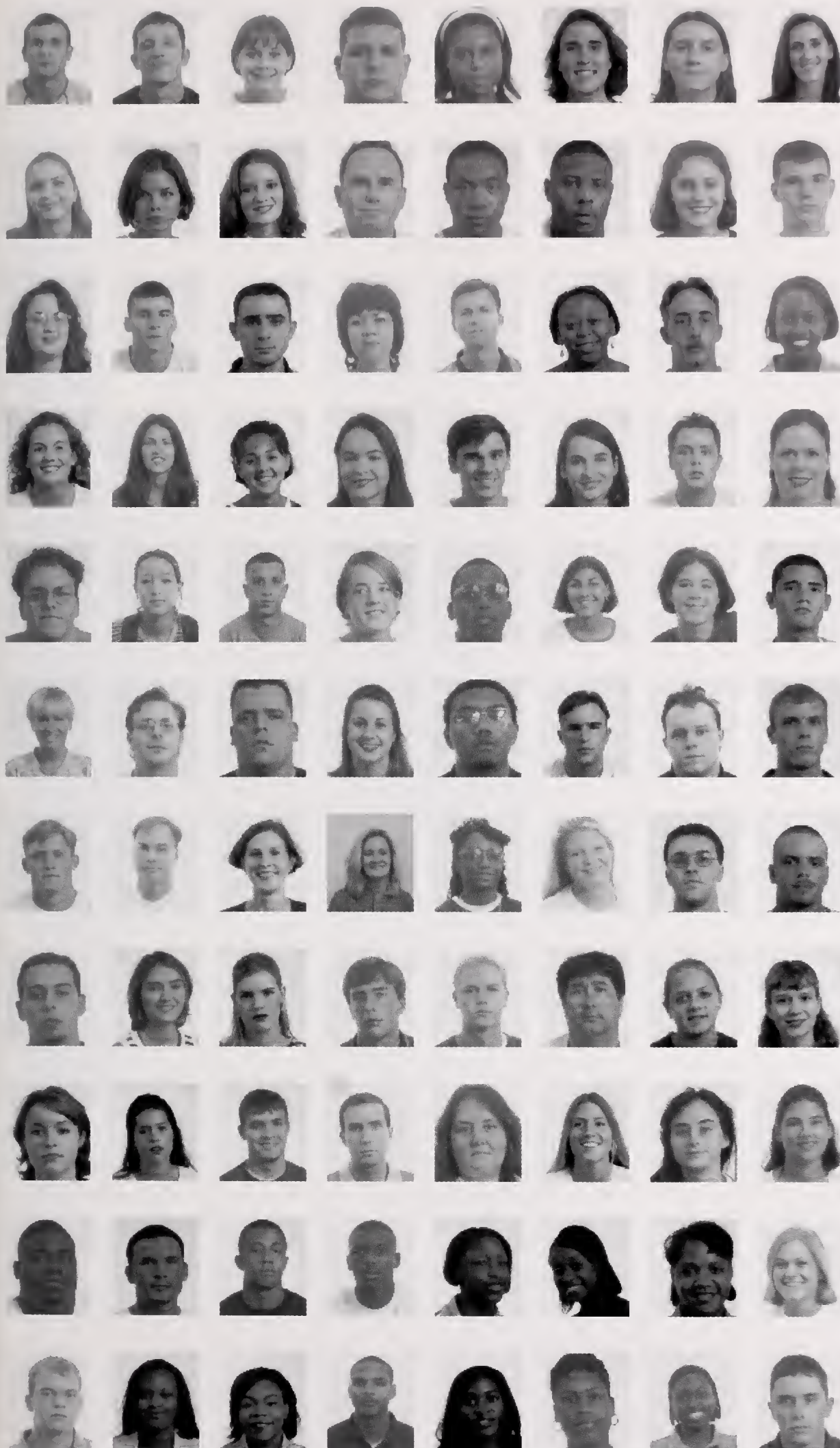
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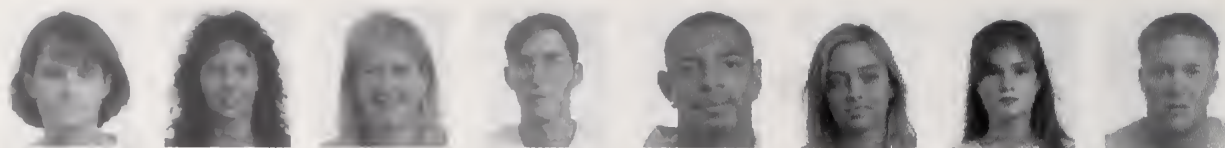
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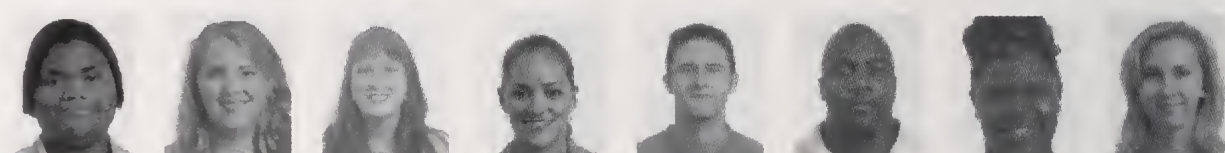
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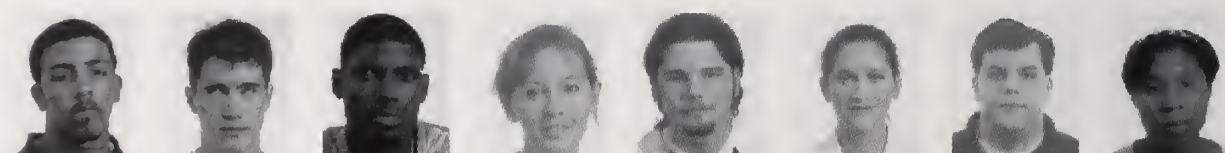
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# CHERAMIE GOSNELL

I never want to limit myself to just one thing. I want to keep my options open," said Cheramie Gosnell. Gosnell is a public relations major who is working on her internship at a marketing and creative professional firm. "I like marketing, advertising, computers, and graphics," she said.

Gosnell started at USL in the fall of 1992 and pledged Tri-Delta. She soon became active with the Greek council and learned how other sororities worked. Now, Gosnell is the Greek affairs staff assistant. This is where she has the opportunity to assist Greek Deans. Gosnell is concerned with sorority RUSH. She may be found working with the RUSH counselors, Panhellenic and inner fraternity council, or with the National Panhellenic Council. Keeping the groups on track and helping them out is what Gosnell does.

After graduating, Gosnell said that she was excited, but not ready to leave school yet. So, she applied to be a dorm counselor. Then she heard of an opening for the Greek affairs student assistant position. "It was too perfect, and it came at a great time!" Gosnell got the job and really feels like a part of a team. She enjoys being able to travel with other sorority girls to conventions.

Some of the conventions that Gosnell has attended are the Southern Greek Leadership Conference (SGLC) and the Southeastern Panhellenic Conference (SEPC). At SGLC, Gosnell found it interesting to hear guest

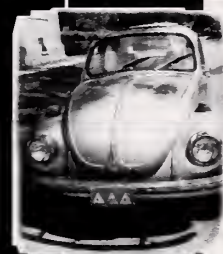
speakers talk about college and life itself. SEPC's programs were, however, more geared towards women. "I've just learned so much."

Traveling is a big deal to Gosnell. And because of the Career Fair, Student Conservation Association, she has had some awesome traveling opportunities. Whether it was guiding people through caves, or welcoming people to the Magic Kingdom of Walt Disney World, Gosnell has had a blast.

"It was incredible! I had never been to the mountains or inside a cave before. At Disney World, I was able to meet people from all over the world!" So, Gosnell was able to gain great living and working experience that will definitely aid in her future career (whatever it may be).

"As far as what I'm going to be, I have no idea . . . but, I know that I want to travel, even though I love it here in Louisiana." Gosnell plans to eventually get her master's degree after working a while and seeing what it is she actually wants to do with her future.

She has held several jobs and has been able to meet many people. "You work in places to help you get to other places." Gosnell is hoping that maybe her internship will take her in some sort of direction. "I've done things in the past that have given me the experience I've needed. I've opened up a lot of doors." *M*





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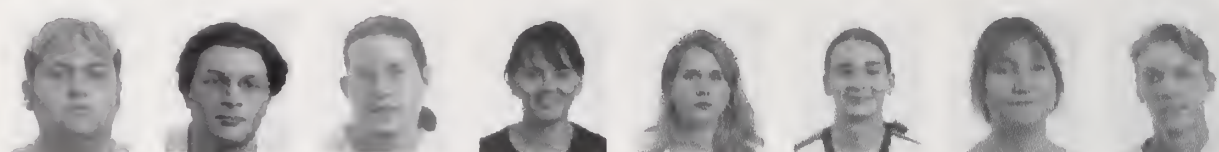
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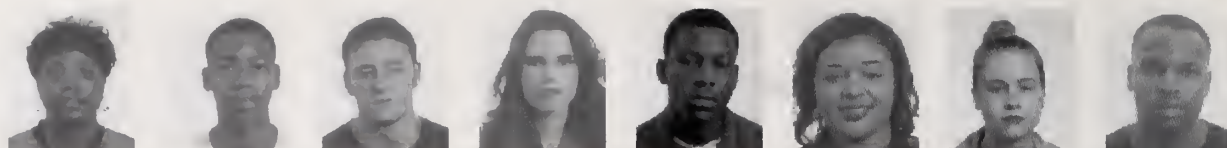
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**B**randon Stokley is one of the top athletes in the country. One might think that Stokley, a junior All-American wide receiver, would have an ego as large as the amount of national attention that he has been receiving over the past two years. But, Stokley is not the typical athlete that is out for praise and glory. And he knows how to keep his life as well as his ego in perspective.

Football is, obviously, Stokley's first love. "I've been around football all of my life and basically, it's what I know and what I like doing," he said. "I got into football really from my dad" (USL Head Football Coach Nelson Stokley). "I've been around it all of my life and watching him, seeing what he does, I really like it a lot."

Playing receiver on the football team, Stokley has some outstanding statistics. In just two years, he has set multiple school and NCAA records and has totaled 156 receptions for 2,281 yards and 16 scores. His 75 catches for 1,121 yards as a first-year player were the most by a freshmen in the history of college football.

Despite the accolades, Stokley downplays the national attention and his individual achievements. "It's a nice recognition, but you have to put it into perspective," he said. "You owe a lot to your teammates. You know that you can't do it on your own."

Having his father, Nelson Stokley, as the head coach of the team has been "great" for Stokley. "He treats me like all of the other players. I get to see my dad a lot more than I would if I wasn't playing football."

When asked if he thinks of the team as a family, Stokley said, "Yes. When there's something like football where it's a year round thing, always working out together and being with them

# BRANDON STOKLEY

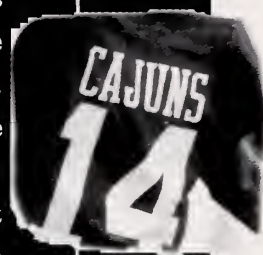
all the time; it's like they're your brothers, and you have to look out for one another."

Since Stokley's name is well known around campus, has this high profile status changed his life in any way? "It hasn't really," he said. "Most people don't recognize me. That's how I feel about it. I feel like I'm the same as everyone else. I'm just a student on campus."

Stokley's expectations for the future are very ambitious. "I hope to try to play in the NFL for a few years, and then, after that, just see what jobs are available." At USL, Stokley is currently pursuing a degree in Adaptive Education and coaching might be in his future when his playing days are over. His ultimate dream for the future is "playing pro-football in the NFL one day. I'd want to play for the 49ers because they have such a classy organization."

"I love football. I think the best thing about it is hanging out with all of your friends because they're on the team. Being with them makes the whole experience fun. It also makes it easier during tough times of the season. We're a good unit," he said.

Being in the limelight has not affected Stokley's view of his life. He readily gives credit where credit is due, he appreciates the team, and appreciates the time he is able to spend with his father. The attitude that Stokley possesses makes one wish that all athletes looked at what is most important in life—family and friends and not at how much money their contract is worth for that season. Stokley exemplifies the idea that some athletes don't play for money and fame, but for the love of the game itself. **M**





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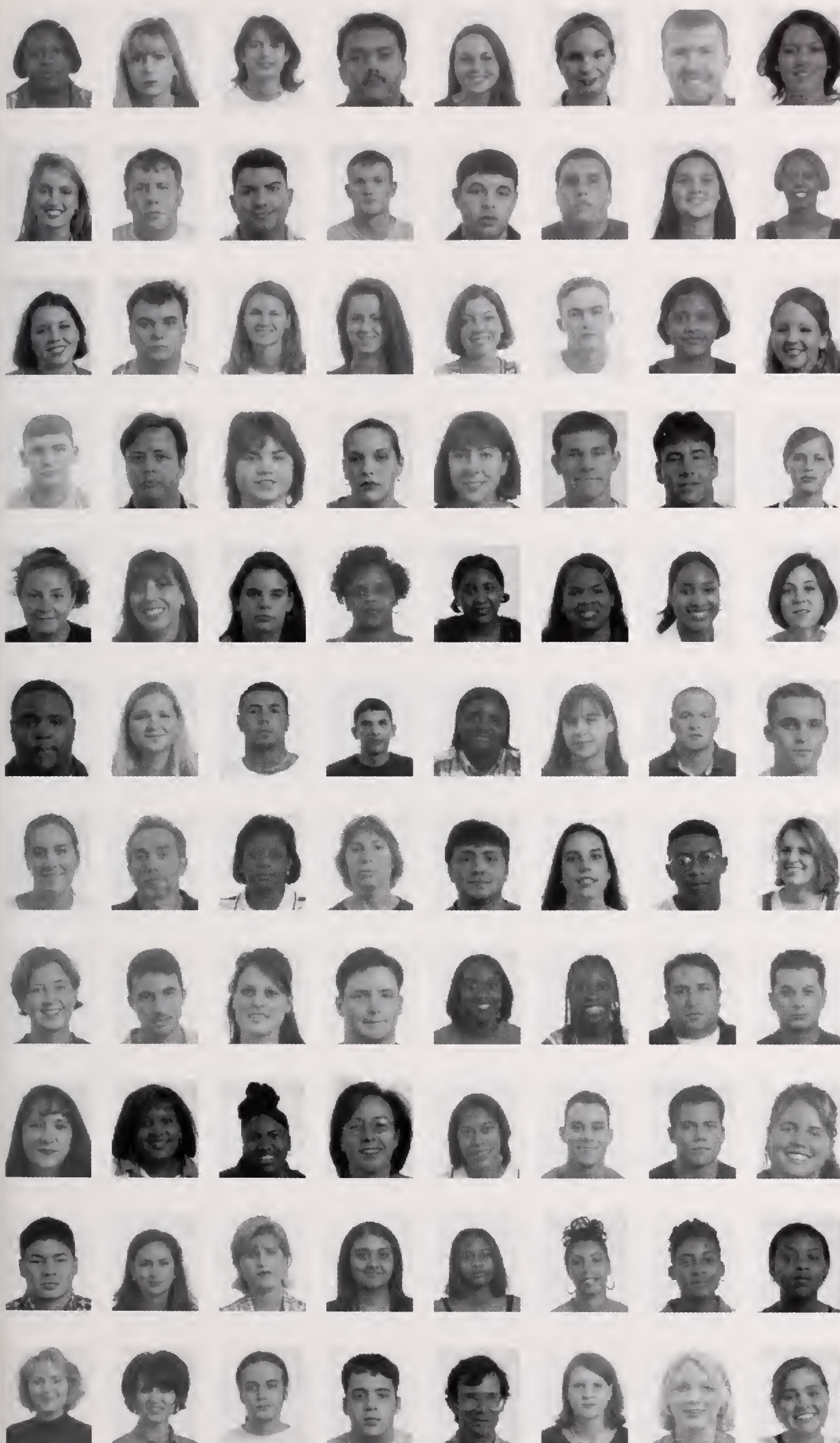
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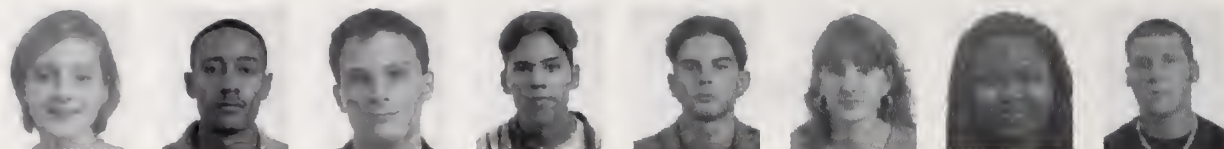
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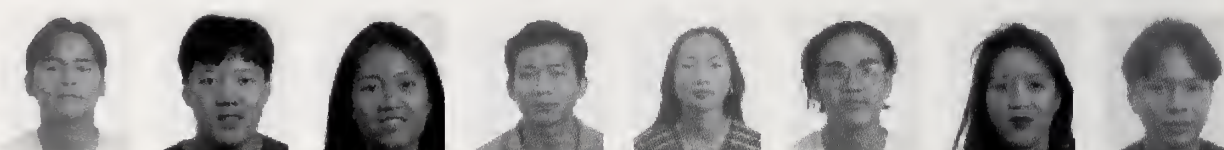
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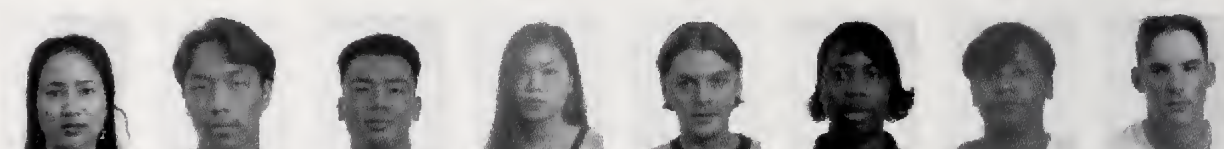
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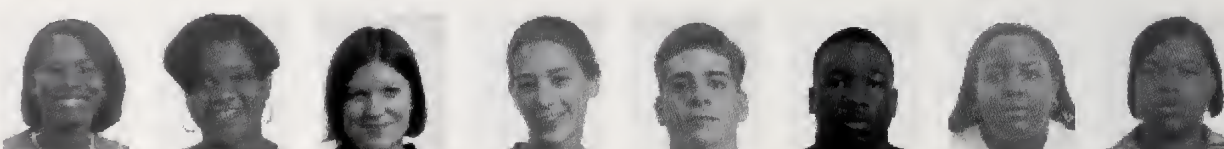
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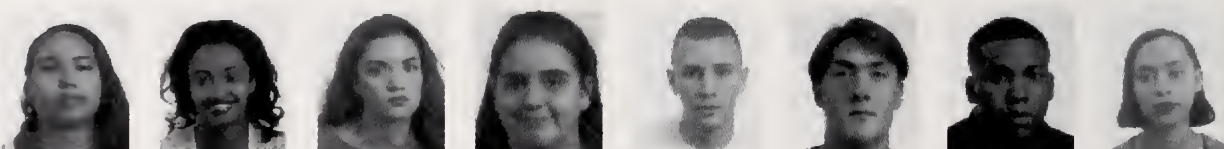
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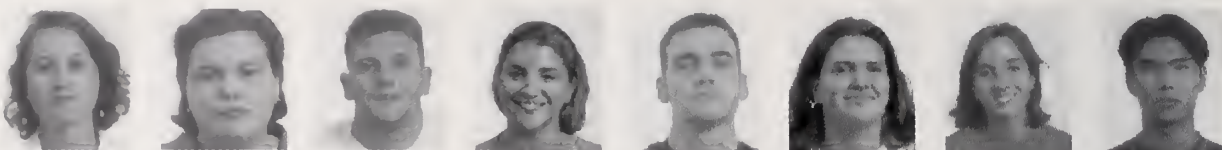
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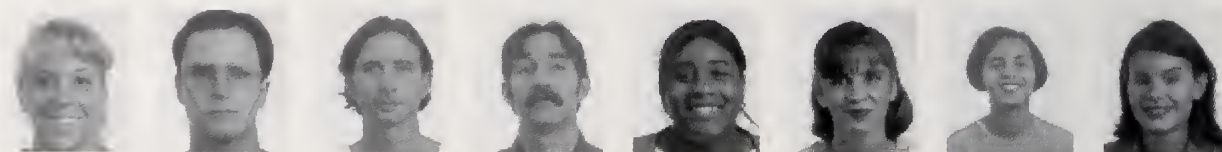
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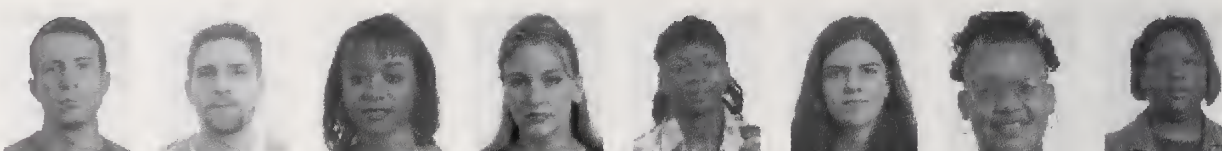
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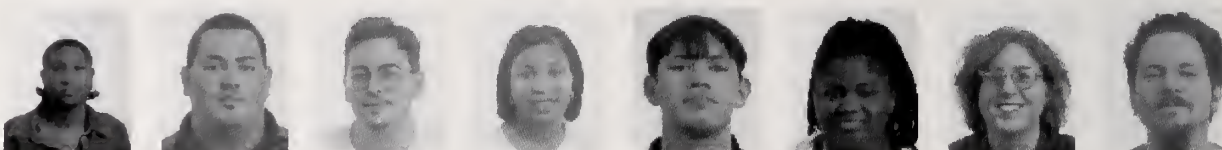
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# TENNIA STEVENSON

What type of person is involved in six different organizations on campus in her senior year when she's trying to graduate? One without much free time.

Tennia Lynn Stevenson is a twenty-year-old Public Relations major from Garyville, Louisiana. She hopes to one day own her own public relations firm. Until then she is keeping busy at USL.

Stevenson has sacrificed her summers to be on the Student Orientation Staff (SOS) for the past three years. Why would she do that? "I joined SOS to give other freshmen what someone gave to me," she said.

"I was very nervous when I came to USL for orientation. The SOS helped to ease that, and I thought it would be fun to do. I have met some of my best friends through SOS, and it's a great feeling knowing you've helped someone feel more comfortable about coming to USL." Stevenson has probably helped many of the people reading this article adjust to being a college student.

USL was Stevenson's first college choice after seeing its beautiful campus. She was also inspired by the friendly atmosphere on our campus. Living in the dormitories is convenient for her because "whenever I wake up late, it doesn't matter because class is right there."

"Classes at USL have never been a problem for me. I've enjoyed most of them and most of my professors."

Stevenson's USL involvement doesn't stop at classes and SOS, she's also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., the Union Program Council, AmeriCorps, PRSSA, and the Residency committee. She used to be a JV cheerleader at USL also. So, does she have any free time?

"I usually don't have any, but I do like to spend as much time as I can with my family and friends." She also manages to squeeze in a little reading, playing softball, and shopping!

You would think Stevenson comes from a large family, with such an outgoing attitude, but this East St. John graduate has only one brother Jason and her dog Tiny. Her parents are Wesley and Elizabeth Stevenson.

Stevenson sees more to USL than fun and classes. "Continuing to be a diverse university and striving to make everyone feel as welcome as they have been will be our biggest issue as we approach the 100-year anniversary of USL. We also face the challenge of making our university the best it can be!"

"USL is a great place to be if you're involved. I would find it impossible to live here and not be involved. I have truly enjoyed USL and encourage others to make the most of their time here."



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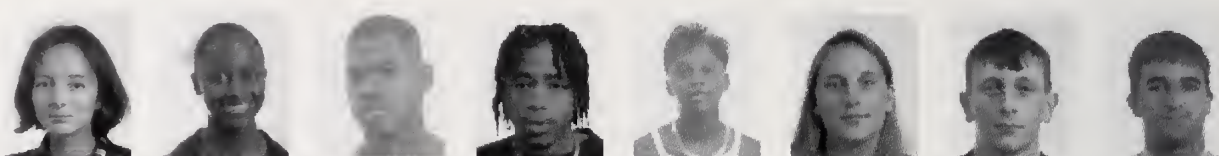
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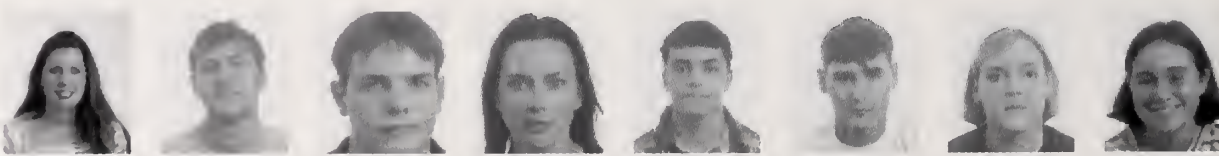
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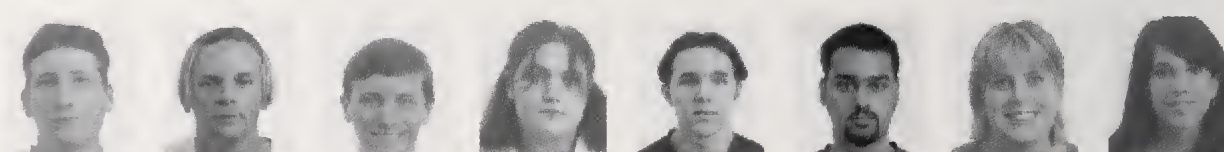
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 Ray, Ashley D







# Nioka Wilson

Once upon a time in LaPlace, Louisiana, a high school senior decided to join other students at USL. The first time she visited USL's beautiful campus, she decided she loved the environment. She chose USL because "it's not home, but it's close enough."

USL gave Nioka Carlette Wilson a very warm welcome, and made the transition from East St. John High School to a university campus an easy one. Wilson decided to become one of those "welcoming people" at USL, and she joined the Student Orientation Staff.

"I love working with and helping others," Wilson said. "I want to make sure that every first-time freshman that enters USL is prepared for their first semester at college."

Not only did Wilson make a big impact in the exciting land of Orientation, but she decided to make an effort to help students already attending USL. By serving as an SGA senator in the College of Business, she was able to offer assistance to those with whom she shared a major. Wilson decided not to stop at the immediately local level. She joined Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. and was selected to join AmeriCorps so that she could help the entire Lafayette community through various volunteer projects.

There comes a time in everyone's life when they must think about themselves for a bit, though, and Wilson does have plans of her own.

"After graduating, I plan on going to graduate school to receive my masters in Business

Administration and to one day open my own business," Wilson said.

When Wilson has free time, she enjoys "spending time with family, friends, sorority sisters, and maybe even catching up on some sleep sometimes."

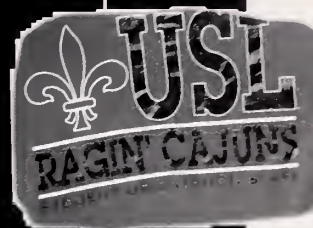
As an outgoing, friendly, and caring person, her favorite aspect of USL is "the friendliness on campus." No matter how caring she may be, however, or how busy she finds herself, she hasn't failed to notice the parking problems on campus, which is her least favorite part of attending USL.

The daughter of James and Terry Wilson, Nioka is not the only member of her family committed to service and friendliness. Her 20-year-old sister Heather followed Wilson's lead to USL and is also an Orientation Staff member. Twenty-one-year-old Wilson also has a brother named James and a six year old sister, Briana.

"Here at the university, service and volunteerism play an important role in my life. While at USL, I have enjoyed meeting people and being active outside of the classroom."

Wilson's advice to entering and currently enrolled students is that "Getting involved in organizations and activities makes college a lot easier and more fun."

So as you're walking around campus next time, smile at someone. It could be your smile and friendliness that influenced other students like Wilson to join come to USL.





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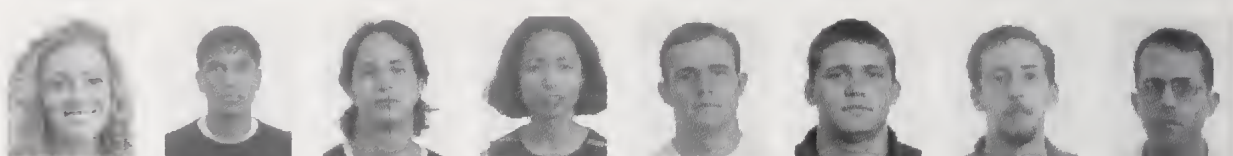
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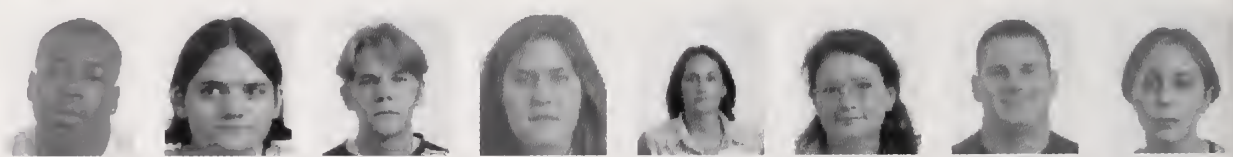
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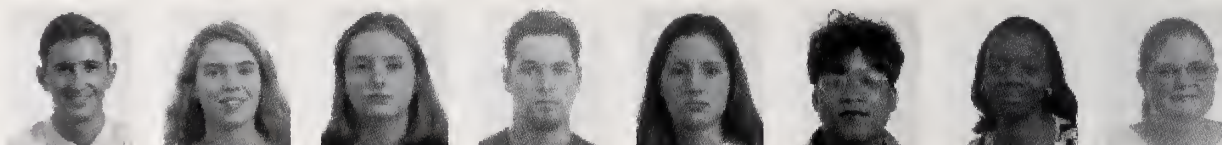
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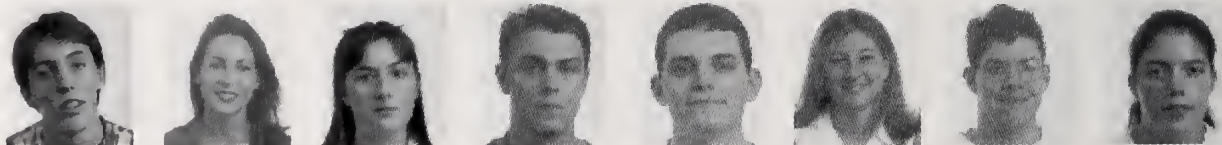
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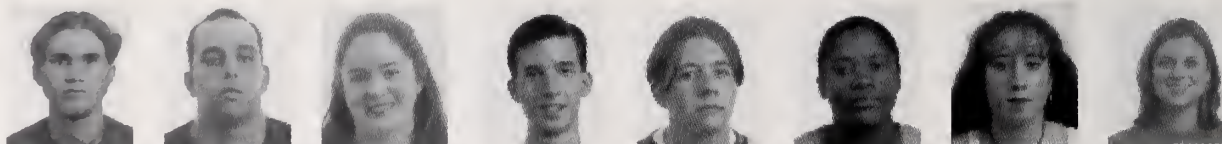
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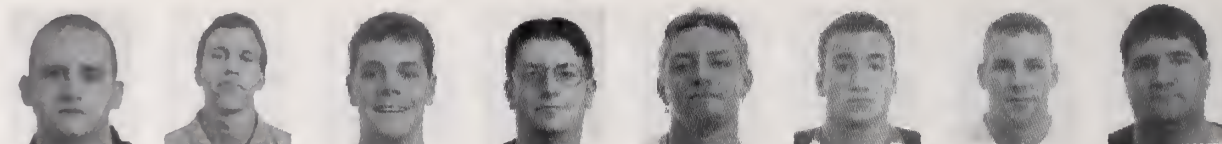
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# CHINATSU MIYAUCHI

“**O**ld age” convinced Chinatsu Miyauchi to attend a university in the United States.

After spending a year studying English at LSU, the 23-year-old freshman transferred to USL to major in dietetics.

Miyauchi is from Kanagawa, Japan. She wanted to travel to Louisiana because a college education is cheaper here than in Japan and because of her advanced years. “If I had entered a university in Japan, I would have felt uncomfortable because, they care about age. They care about age a lot. Everyone in Japan goes to a university as soon as they graduate (from high school),” Miyauchi said.

Just getting into a university in Japan is a difficult process. Students frequently have to spend one year or more taking math, history, and Japanese courses in order to prepare for university classes, she said. The cost can exceed \$10,000 per year.

A cheerful student, Miyauchi was pragmatic about going to school and wanted more time to prepare herself mentally and financially for the rigors of academic life.

“I didn’t want to go to a Japanese university at the time. I felt that everyone played after they enter the university. They didn’t study; they got everything from the university. I felt I wanted to do something new I didn’t want to lose my money,” Miyauchi said.

Instead, she went to Tokyo and found a job working for a transportation company. She typed and helped the boss in her position as an office assistant.

Then, Miyauchi decided to go to Baton Rouge and learn English. The reason she chose Louisiana, “because it’s cheap, I mean reasonable,” she said laughing. But, that wasn’t the only lure that attracted her here.

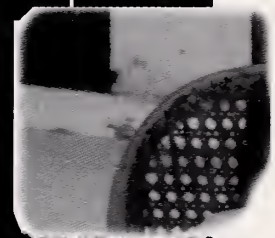
“The music, like jazz music and blues music—I like it,” she said. Miyauchi knew exactly where to go to hear the best of both types of music. “I wanted to see New Orleans,” she said.

Her parents weren’t thrilled with the idea of their daughter coming to America to attend school. “They wanted me to stay in Japan. But, I decided I want to (attend school here),” Miyauchi explained.

She chose dietetics as her discipline because, “it’s helpful for people.” She stops to consider her answer. “And I like food,” she says erupting into laughter again.

Asked if she enjoys Cajun food, she said, “I love it.” But, there is one delicacy here that she isn’t sure about—crawfish. “I tried it, it’s nice. But crawfish, it’s a pet in Japan.”

Miyauchi said she would like to stay in Louisiana after she graduates and try and find a job. Maybe, she can raise a few crawfish as pets in her spare time





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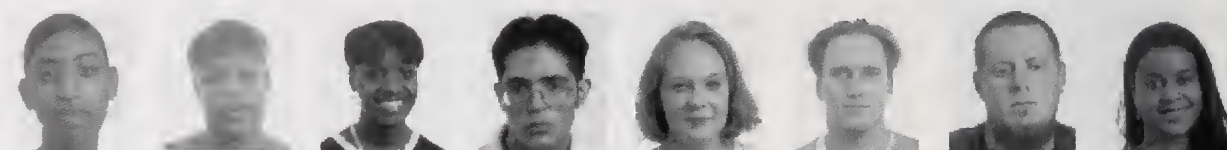
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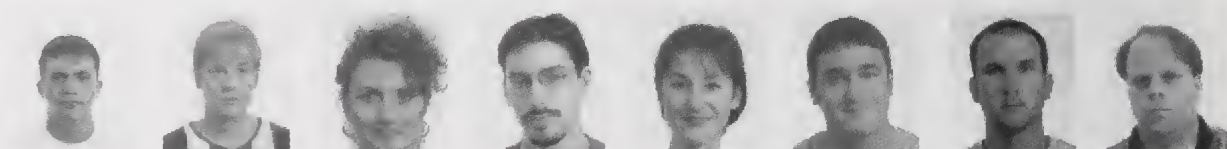
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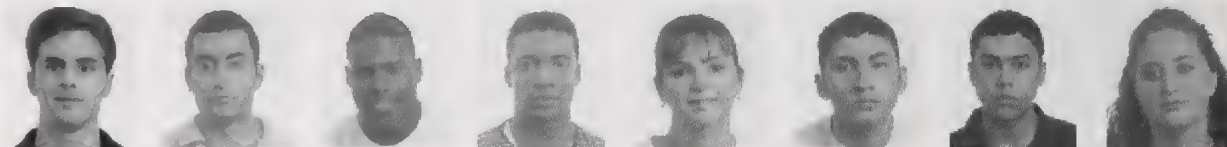
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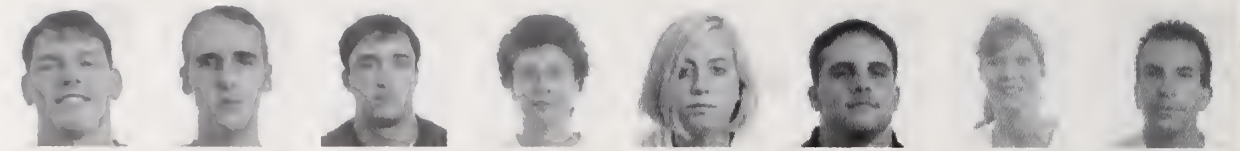
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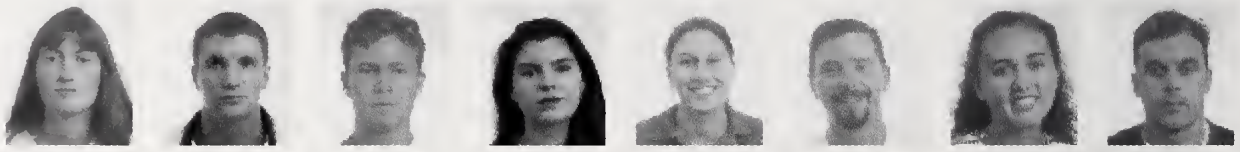
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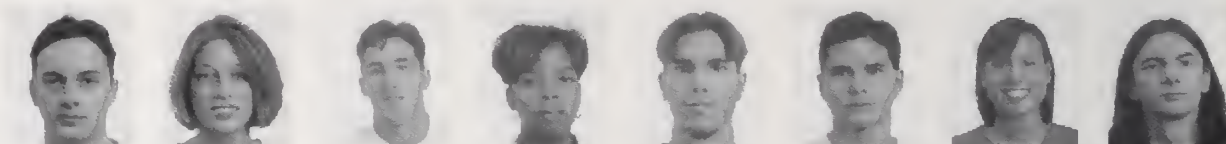
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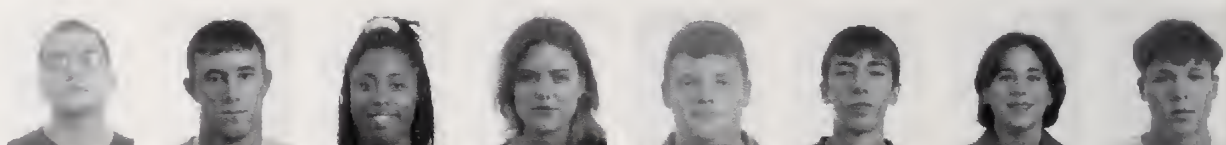
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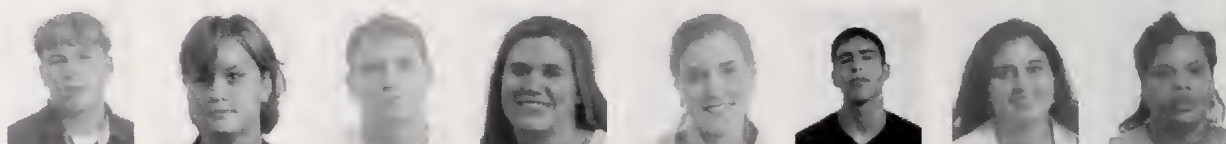
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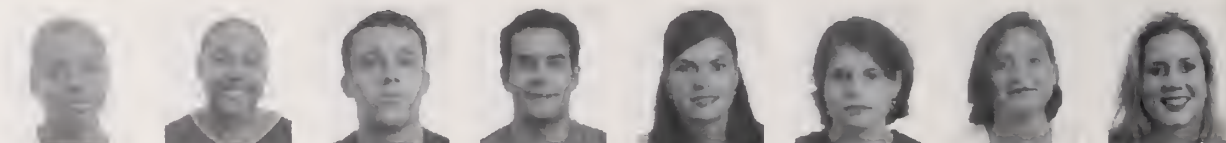
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# JENNY GARCIA

A terrific sense of humor is a necessity for chemical engineering students—along with a father who is a chemist with two Ph.D.s and a mother who is an English teacher. And a healthy I.Q. doesn't hurt either.

At least that's the formula that is helping Jenny E. Garcia make it in a very difficult discipline at USL. Along with a chemical engineering major, her minor is chemistry. "I like chemistry, physics and math. I don't know how to explain that. I like it," said the 19-year-old native of Caracas, Venezuela.

Her sense of humor is irrepressible. Jenny laughs at everything: you, me, school, life—everything. She really enjoys life, and you can't be around her for more than two seconds, without her proving it.

Why did she choose USL? "It's cheaper, but not anymore." Ok, that's one thing that definitely doesn't amuse her. But, how did she even hear about USL in Caracas? I had two cousins going to USL. They told me about it," she said smiling.

Jenny said that she is getting a good education, but the price increases infuriate her. "Yes, but it's too expensive. It's a good education, but it doesn't have to be that expensive," she said. International students pay almost four times what in-state students are charged per semester. "It's not fair, and they are going to raise the tuition to \$4,000 next semester," she said.

But, she does find the people and way of life in southern Louisiana amusing. "They are friendly and spicy," she said with a laugh.

Her graduation will take place in 1999, and she has plans for her future. "Get a master's, go to graduate school." Where? "I don't know yet. I'll think about that in two years," she said with another laugh. After that, she intends to get a job, but where is up in the air.

"Anywhere in the world," Jenny explained.

Although the location of her future employment is vague, she is very specific about what she would like to do. "I want to make artificial hearts and kidneys, artificial organs. To save peoples lives," Jenny said.

Her lifestyle in the future will improve dramatically no doubt, but right now, she lives very simply in a small, one-bedroom apartment near the campus. She says that she enjoys living alone, "because I can study better. I don't have to tell people to be quiet.

In the rare moments when she isn't studying, Garcia likes to kick back. "Drink beer, watch movies, learn Italian, cook, call friends, watch the Discovery Channel. I used to like to play with my computer. But, someone stole my computer, printer and television," Jenny said of a break-in that occurred while she was home for the summer holidays.

Now she listens to the radio. Her tastes run from classical music, Jazz, Caribbean music, "something you can move (to). And, of course, some rock. All kinds of music," she said laughing.

Jenny said she only has one hobby, Tae-Kwon-Do. She took up the discipline at USL, in her P.E. classes. She currently holds a green belt but is continuing to gain the knowledge and skill that will one day earn her a black belt. She took it up, "because living by myself I need to protect myself," she explained.

Garcia is becoming a true renaissance woman, skilled in chemical engineering, the arts, music, and one day she will have a black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do, and she will always have that terrific sense of humor.





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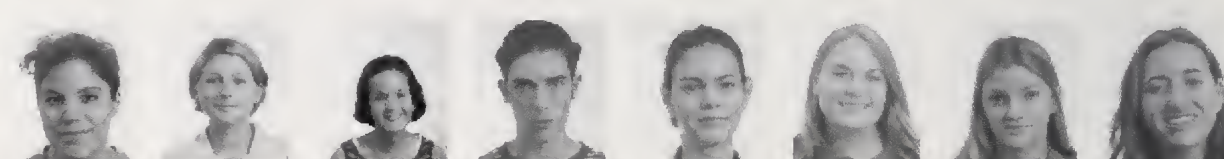
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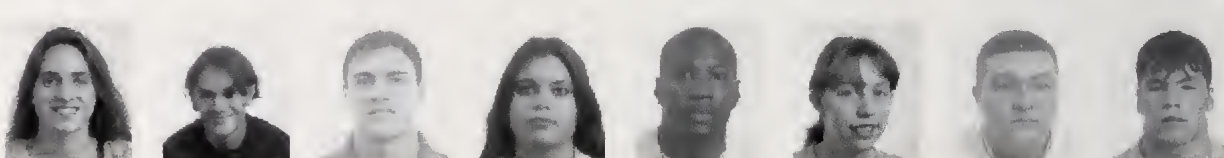
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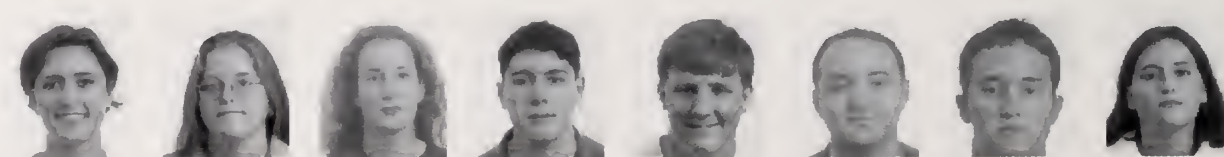
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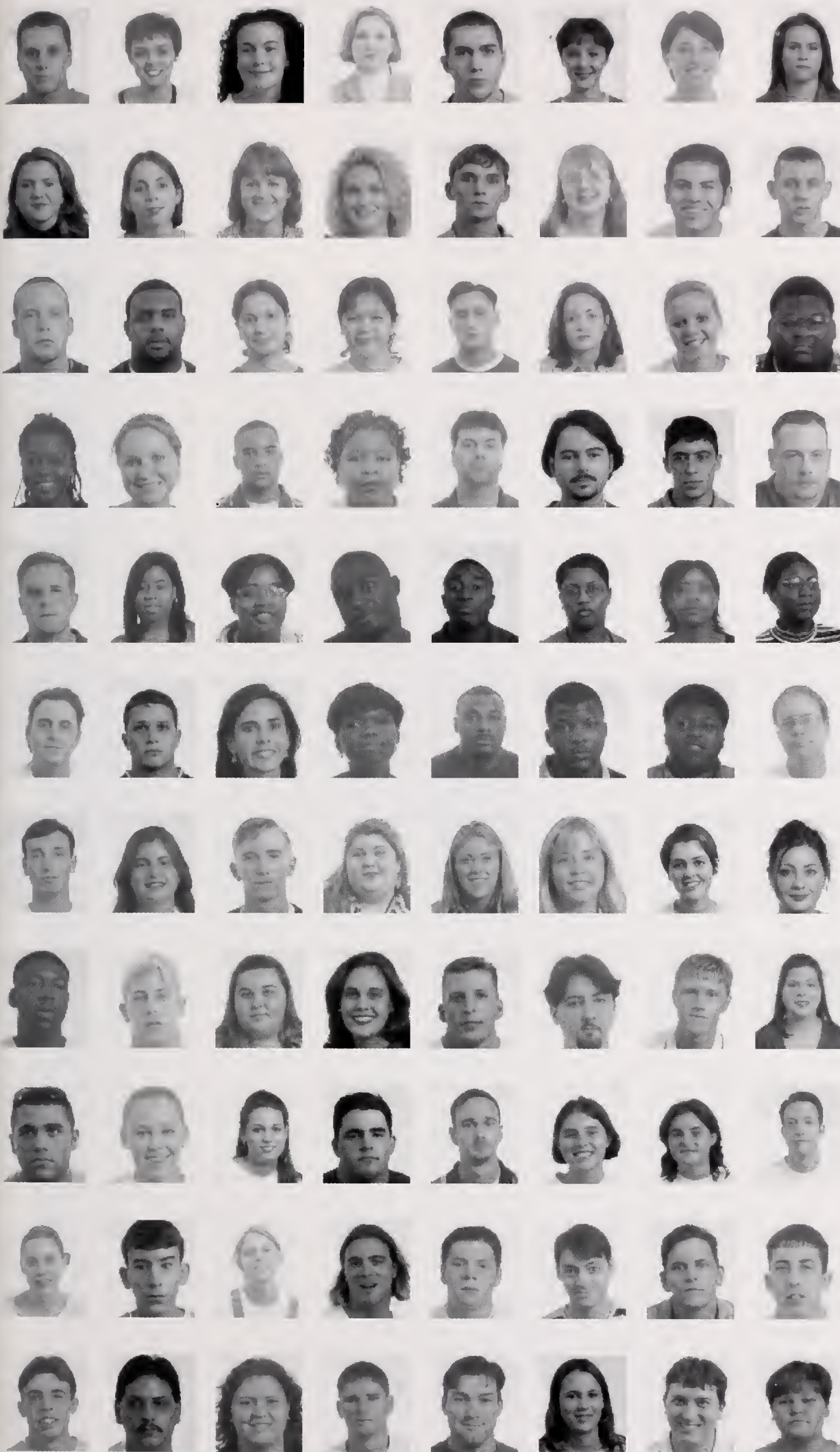
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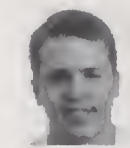
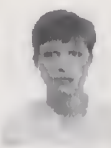
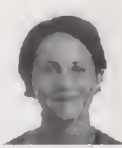
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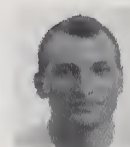
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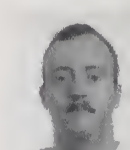
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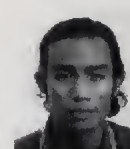
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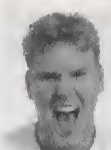
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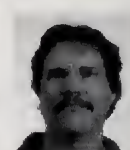
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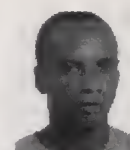
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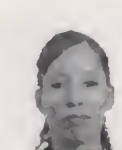
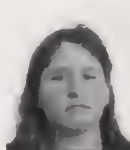
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# MATT TREVINO

A finance major, Matt Trevino, has a plan for the future that does not exactly involve business. Trevino hopes to become a professional golfer. And by playing no less than two hours a day, Trevino works to his fullest to improve his game.

Since he was about eight years old, Trevino has played golf. His father introduced him to this sport, and immediately, Trevino became addicted. Now Trevino spends all of his time playing and says that he really enjoys it because it is a game that can be played individually. So it isn't as though Trevino always has to worry about having a partner. When he feels like going on the course, that is exactly what he does. And because it is a year-round sport, he is able to play constantly for tournaments.

The tournaments are usually not local, so Trevino travels a lot. He says that he enjoys traveling though since he doesn't like to stay in the same place for very long. "I feel that I am more well rounded because I have had the opportunities to play out of the country."

Trevino has several impressive golf accomplishments. He has managed to set a course record at Le Triomphe, finish second at NCAA regionals (which is the second time in school history), and has won Louisiana State and first place in the Sun Belt Conference. Trevino has also played on a national level.

Trevino and his team have kept themselves busy during and after the school year. There are ten to eleven guys on the team, and they are coached by Bob Bass. Despite his experience, Trevino still finds himself getting nervous before a tournament. "I think it's a good thing to be nervous because it means that you care." There are usually 15 teams at a tournament, so the competition is very hot. Competition is what it's all about and I really enjoy it!"

Trevino's parents have been very supportive of him. They are planning to attend all of his games. Trevino has a younger sister who teaches in Trevino's home town of San Antonio. "My sister and I are not at all alike. While she likes staying in one place, I am always on the go." This summer Trevino proves this by traveling the entire time.

The 22-year-old golfer hopes to be able to play on television in the future. To play for the professional tours will be a five to six hour process. Trevino hopes that his game will mature. And even if his game doesn't improve, he has already had so many successes and has learned a lot. He plans to leave his options open.

Trevino hopes to achieve even more in the golf profession and continues to practice his game. So be on the lookout for Trevino at Oak Borne or possibly even on television in the near future. *M*





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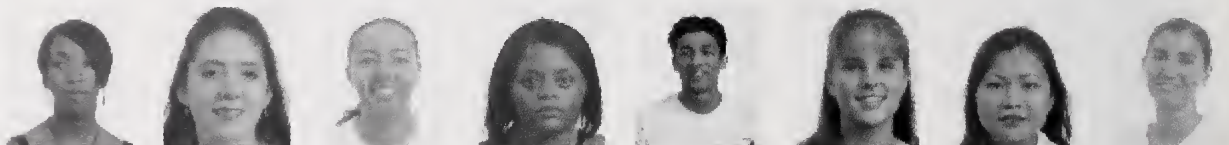
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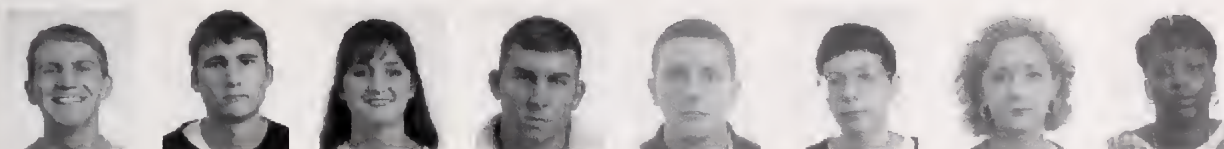
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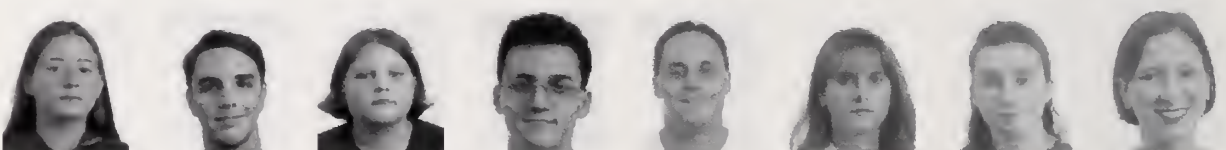
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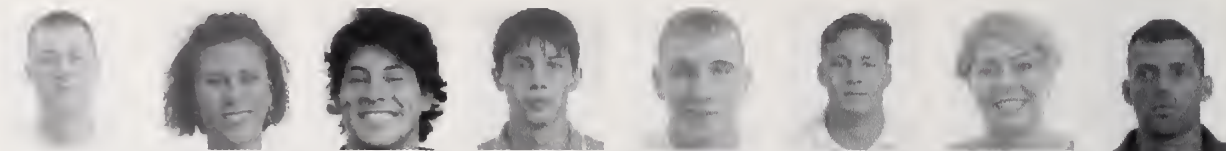
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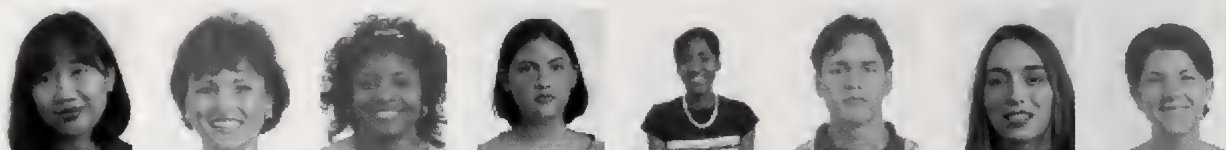
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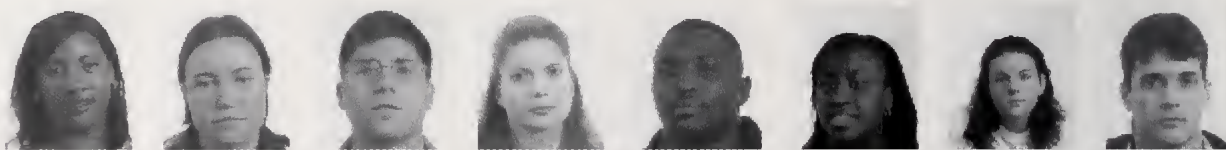
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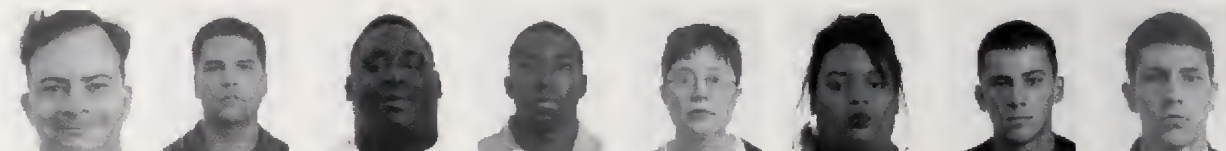
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 Valladares, Juan M  
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# DANIELLE SCOTT

The word involvement best describes Danielle M. Scott. A 20-year-old junior majoring in English education, Scott enjoys singing, church activities, writing, and traveling. Her favorite food is "anything Mexican, and I love the music group Boys II Men."

Scott is involved in the Student Government Association, and the USL Ministry Association. In SGA, she is a part of the Transit and Parking committee, the Lyceum committee, and the Food Service committee. She is also a representative on the UPC.

"I love SGA," Scott said. "In this organization, we all stick together and do things as a group." Scott is also a member of USL's Gospel Choir and is Vice-President of the organization.

And she enjoys the activities that the Watch Care Association does. "I am a member of the Campus Ministry group. In that group we try to gain souls for Christ. Just because a student moves out of their parents home does not mean they have to stop going to church. It is still very important for individuals to attend church regularly and to follow God's teachings. Religion is very important in my life. I have let religion become a very important part of my life. I have become a better person due to the teachings of the Progressive Member Church here in Lafayette."

Scott has made a connection between music and religion. "The fondest memory I have experienced with this church was the National Baptist Student Choir retreat. It's a fun experience; we got to meet other college students from around the country," said Scott. She was also involved with band in high school. "I participated in the

band and was percussion section leader for two years. I was also a member of the Future Teachers Committee. I always new I wanted to be a teacher," she said.

"I would advise any incoming Freshmen to get involved in the university activities. It will help you learn the university, its policies and you get to meet new people every day," commented Scott.

With everything that she is involved in Scott still finds time to travel. She has been to Europe, New Jersey, Florida, New York City, Houston, Dallas, Washington D.C., North Carolina, and South Carolina. "I have traveled all over the United States, and I plan to see it all someday" said Scott. Also in her future plans is teaching in her hometown of New Orleans. "After I graduate, I would like to teach and go to night school and pursue my master's degree. After that, I would like to earn my Ph.D.

In terms of her education, Scott gives credit to her parents. "I would have never accomplished this without the help and support of my parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stanford Scott," she said. "I would especially like to recognize my dad. My dad was always there for me when I needed him. I love him very much." Scott also has a sister who attends Southern University as a senior.

Scott loves to be with people and make a difference whenever possible. "I love USL and it's people. The campus is super friendly and the university staff is always there to help whenever you are in need of it" remarked Scott.



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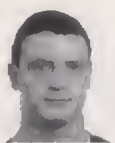
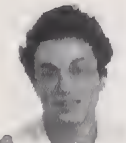




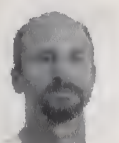
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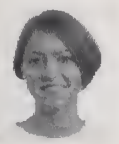
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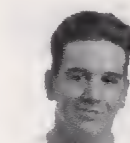
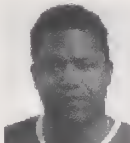
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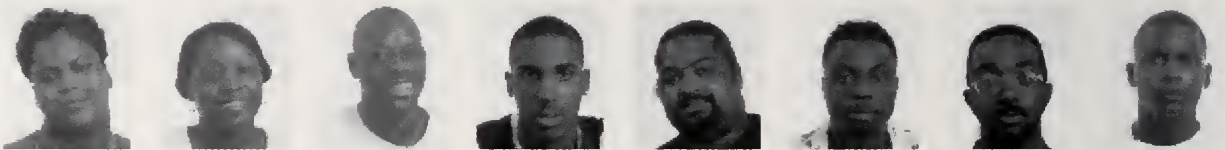
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# AIMEE BARBER

♦♦ If you are interested in something, don't give up", exclaimed Aimee Barber, an Architecture student who is working on her thesis. Barber did not see herself as an architect a few years ago, but now she cannot imagine herself doing anything else.

When Barber was in high school, she mainly enjoyed her art classes. "It was always such a relief to go to art class. I always did well in other subjects, such as math and english, but I always found myself sketching pictures while those classes were going on." One of Barber's teachers told her to consider interior design; however, Barber did not take this advice until much later.

Instead, Barber went into fashion merchandising. It wasn't until she decided that this was not the field for her that she remembered her teacher's advice. Barber, therefore, changed her major to interior design. This is how Barber got involved with American Society of Interior Design (ASID) and American Institute for Architecture Students (AIAS).

Architecture had never been an option with Barber. She remembers her older sister really struggling with the curriculum and eventually dropping her third year. Barber was afraid to even consider the field. But, as time went on in her interior design class, more and more people told her to think about changing her major to architecture. Well, this time Barber took the advice and entered another major.

The professors taught Barber how to open her mind and gain new perspectives. Barber got into it and enjoyed it. "It's really calming because I could do what I wanted. It was fulfilling to not have some

one telling you what you could or could not do. I will always focus on architecture as a whole."

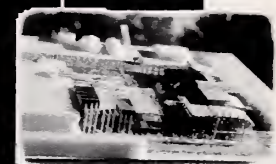
She has stayed focused and involved with major related clubs. She also has served as SGA Senator for the College of the Arts, worked with the Louisiana Convention, participated in Grass Roots, and was nominated for president elect.

If Barber gets the presidency, she will be working in Washington, D.C. On the other hand, if Barber does not receive the presidency, she will want to be a part of the USL France program. "I love to travel. I want to be able to see all that I can possibly see."

Barber also served as captain on an intramural volleyball team which won the state championship. "I was never a leader. I always thought of myself as a follower." But as Barber's sister tells her, "You've always been a leader, but you never knew it."

Being the youngest of ten children, Barber has been able to learn a lot from her brothers and sisters. She is close to her family and knows that if she ever has a problem, there is always someone to talk to. "I look up to people that help other people. I am from the Cajun culture, and in that culture, everyone seems to help everyone else out."

Barber plans to attend graduate school and earn her masters. After her education, she would like to work under an internship. Hopefully—being that Barber loves to travel—she will be able to get an internship overseas. "I don't see myself settling down anytime soon, and I love hands-on experience."





Williams, Stephan S  
Williams, Sylvester  
Williams, Tamekia S  
Williams, Trina M  
Williams, Wanda J  
Williamson, Abner K  
Williamson, Laura  
Willis, Ca Metra M



Willis, Carnesha S  
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Willis, Nicholas R  
Willis, Nikki A



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Willis, Princess V  
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Wycoff, Everett L



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Yandle, Holli K  
Yandle, Stephanie C  
Yang, Fang-Kai  
Yang, Jian Y



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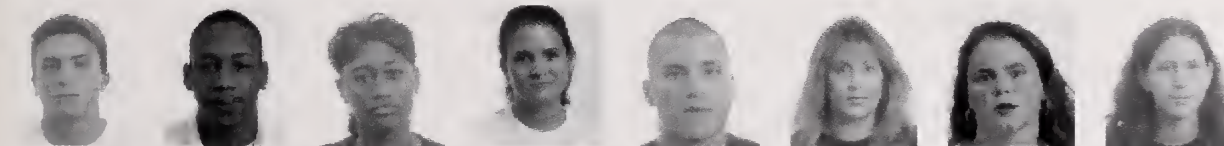
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Young, William  
Yuan, Chih C



Zabaneh, Antonio  
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Zachery, Deidra  
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Zaunbrecher, Anne M



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 Zelden, Matthew J  
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 Zeller, Lorna J



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 Zerangue, Lori J  
 Zerangue, Renee N  
 Zerangue, Ryan J



Zerangue, Sherri A  
 Zomerdijs, Cynthia E  
 Zulli, Gina M  
 Zupanovic, Anthony





# LORI BOUTIN



**U**SL's 1997 Homecoming Queen Lori Boutin is a bit of a wandering spirit. A native of Lafayette, Boutin is a graduate of Comeaux High and a former student of Louisiana Tech.



"I had a scholarship to Louisiana Tech as a photographer. I transferred to USL in January of '94," She said. "I never realized how much Lafayette had to offer until I left. I missed it here, a lot," Boutin said.

"In Lafayette, the personality of the people here, is any excuse to have a party. So, we know how to work hard, but we know how to play hard too. In Ruston, all they know how to do is definitely not how to party. They have a great school; I was just not used to the culture."



Boutin is majoring in psychology with a minor in science. "Originally, when I came to USL, I think I was still in art, and I immediately transferred into the pre-physical therapy program. I wanted to work with people, and help people. So, I decided to go into that field, and I got a job working as a physical therapist technician."



"They (LSU Medical Center) changed the PT program from a bachelor's degree to a master's. So, I had to come up with some idea of a bachelor's degree that I'd be interested in. And, the more I worked in physical therapy as a technician, the more I realized that every physical trauma has an emotional trauma to it because, there is so much going on with the person besides the ailment," Boutin explained. "That's what brought me into psychology."

Boutin is planning on graduating in May. Then, she intends to take a break from the academic grind. "I've decided that I need a break. I decided to sit out

a year. I'm going to continue working for the physical therapist that I work for now. Then, I will apply to physical therapy school at LSU Medical Center, and all over the United States," she said.

Her need for rest is understandable, considering all the activities that she is involved in. Boutin is a full-time student, cheerleader, athlete, and a member of various organizations.

A walk-on senior for the cross-country team, Boutin ran at the conference "which was an honor for me because, first of all, how many walk-on seniors actually get to run. And, then I actually got to run conference, and a lot of other meets too."

Boutin is participating in her second year as a varsity cheerleader and serves as assistant secretary for the squad. She is also a member of AFA (Association of Future Alumni), Phi Beta Delta (an honors international organization), a psychology honors society, "The list goes on," Boutin said in describing her USL involvement..

"I'm in Big Brothers/ Big Sisters. That's not really an organization on campus, that's for the community," she said.

Boutin is also involved in the D.A.R.E. program and M.A.D.D., at least partially for a very personal reason. "My dad died in an alcohol-related car accident. So, I'm very aware of the drug and alcohol issue. I'm very anti-drug and alcohol." Boutin tells children to get involved in sports, dance, or other wholesome pursuits in order to avoid substance abuse problems. Her advice to children: "try and find something you are interested in and get busy. Because, if you're busy, no one's going to have time to bother you," she said.

Lori Boutin took her own advice and her involvement has led her to personal success.



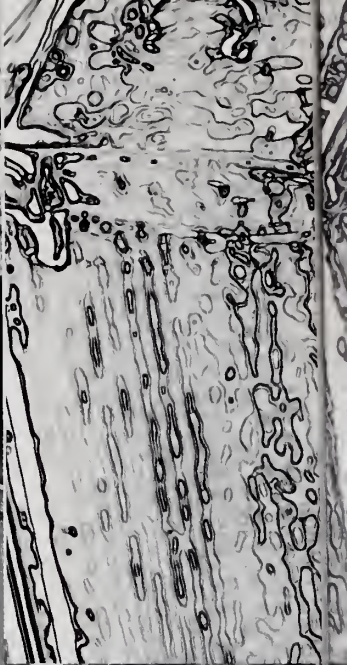








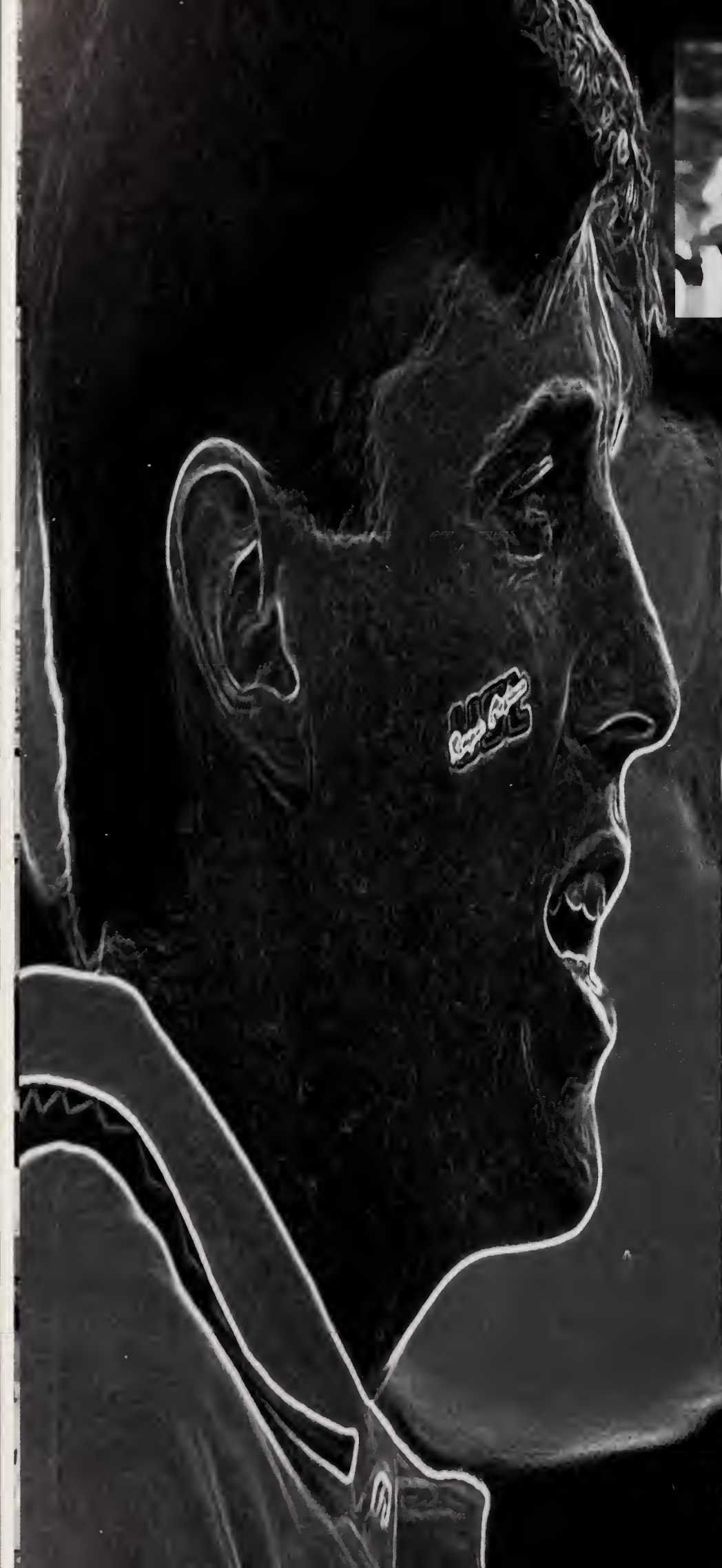












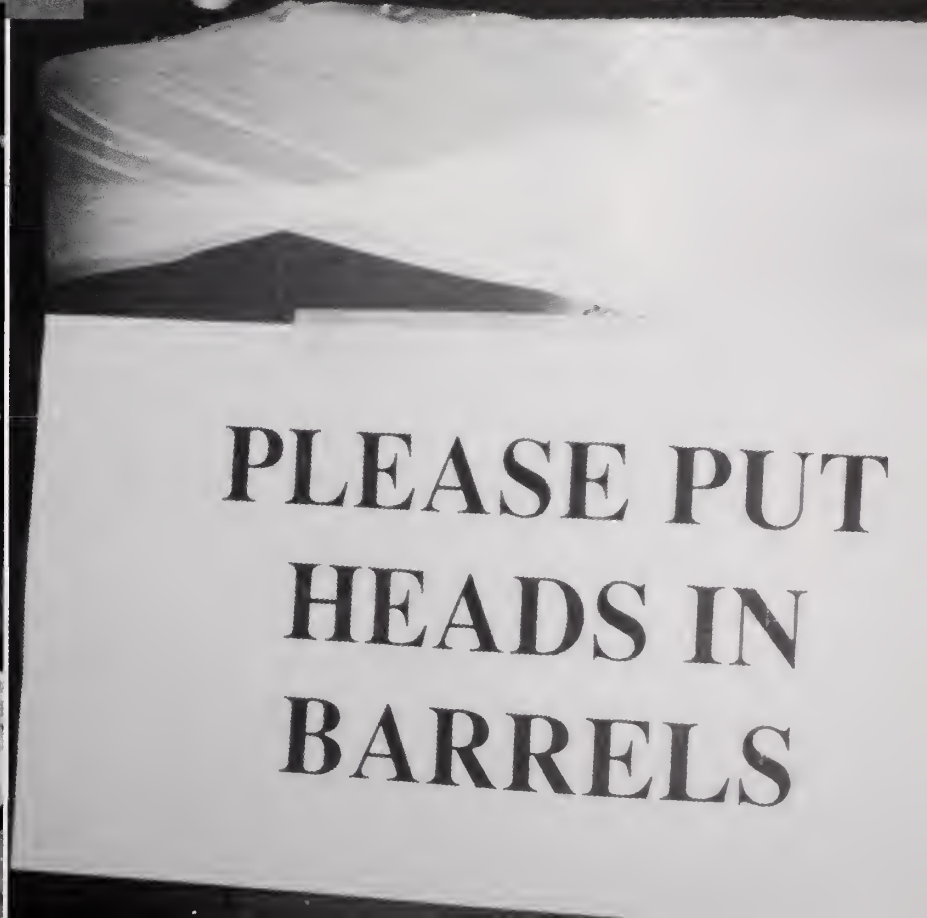
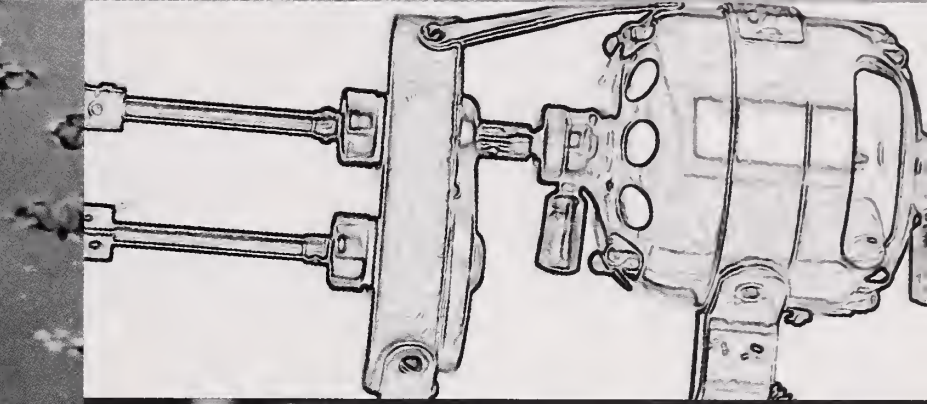




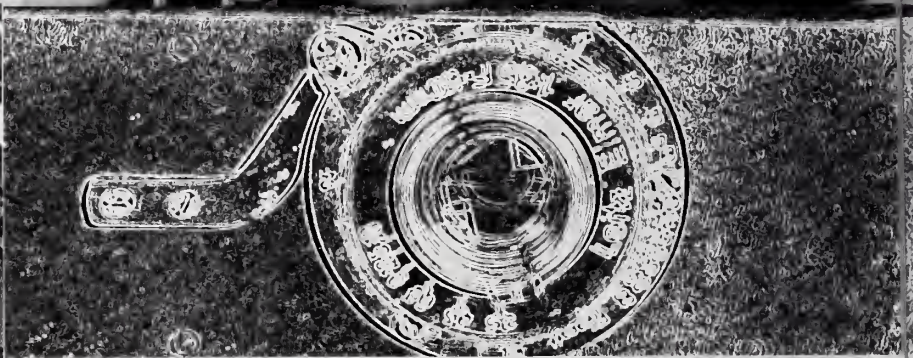






























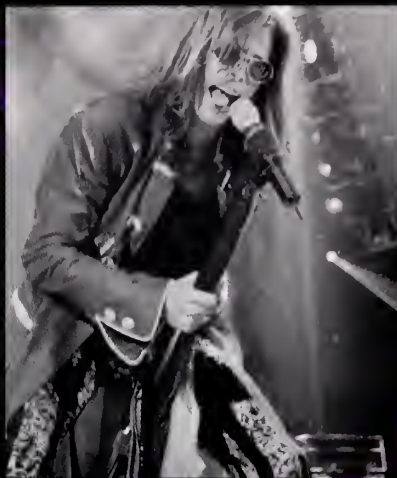




# CONCERTS in LAFAYETTE







## Aerosmith's Steven Tyler at the Cajundome









The Artist Formerly known as Prince  
at the Cajundome





Cowboy McQueen

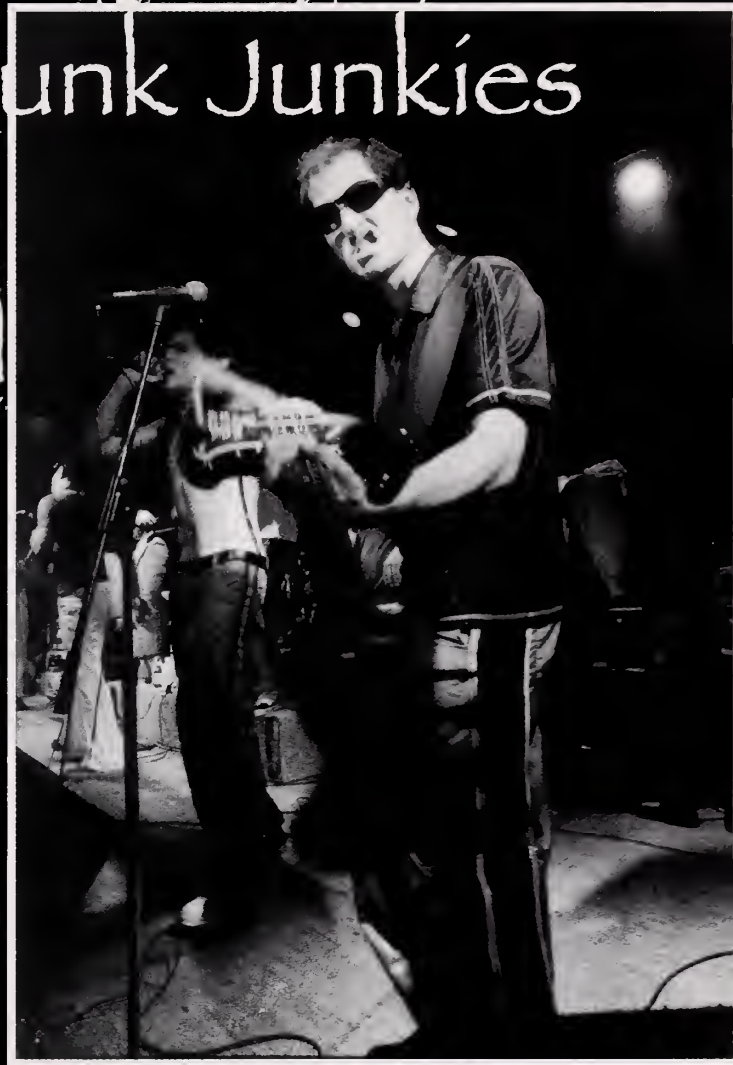


Clay Walker





# Phunk Junkies





# Ricochet





Metallica





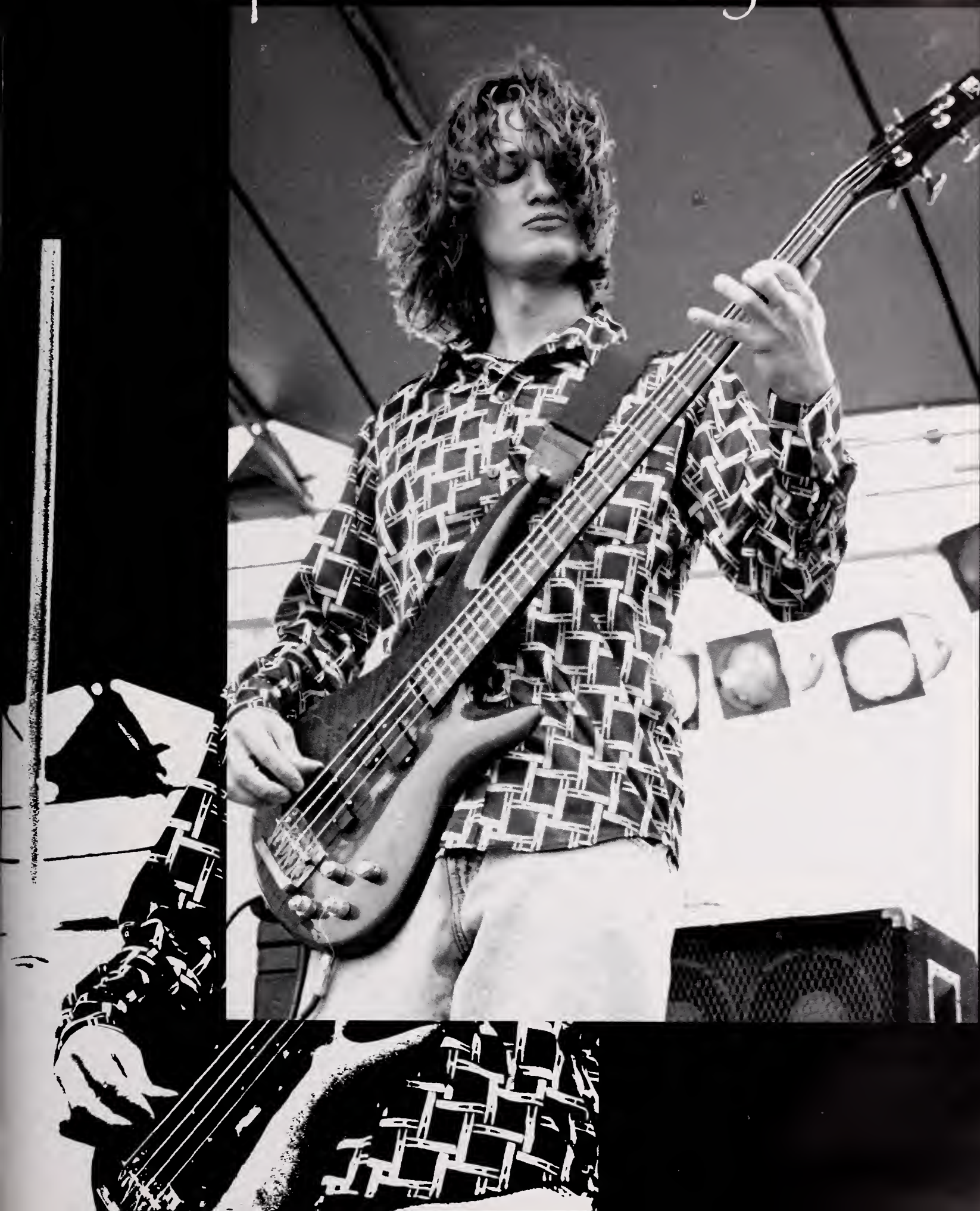
# AND A FEW LOCAL BANDS...



The BlueRunners



# Spank the Monkey







The Andy Smith Band





The Calico Cats



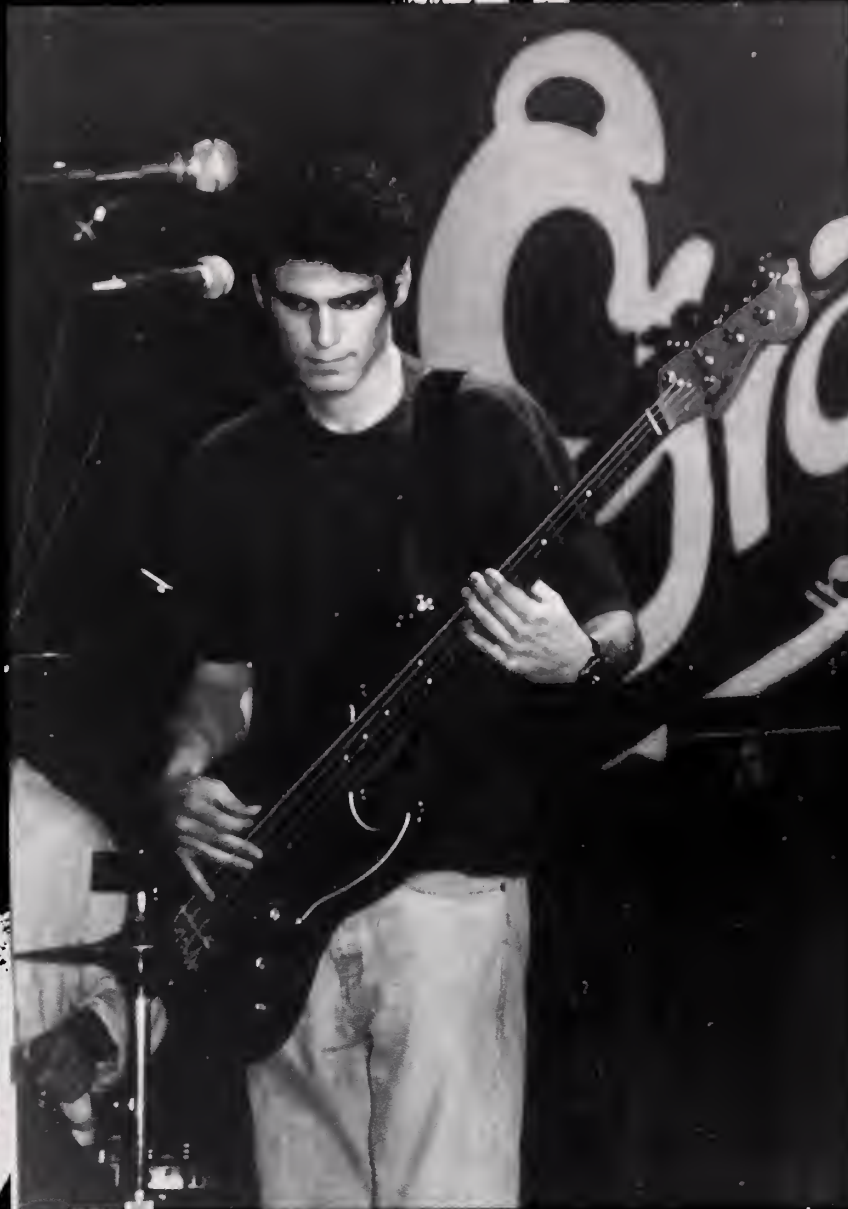


# Megatron Jones

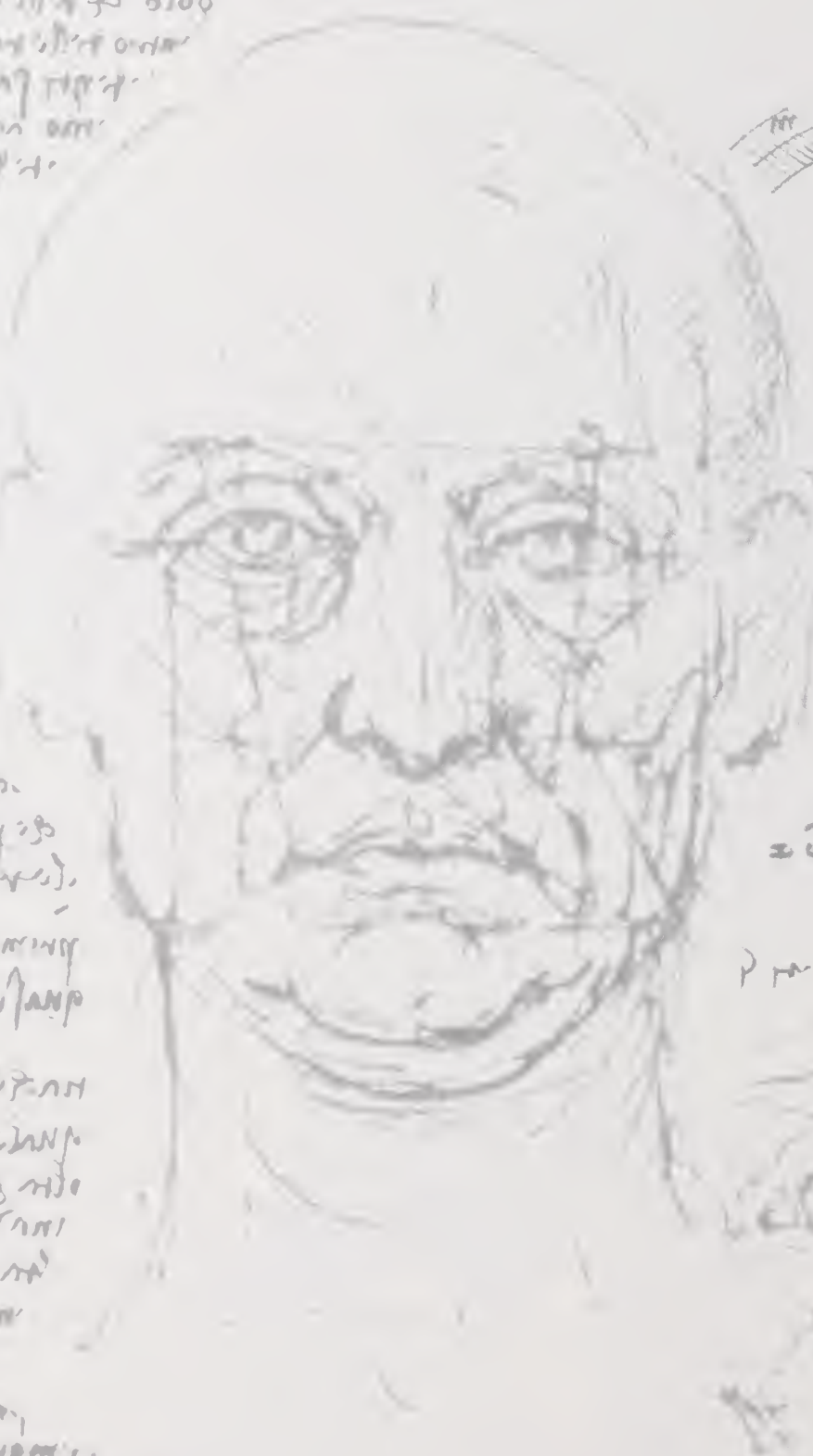
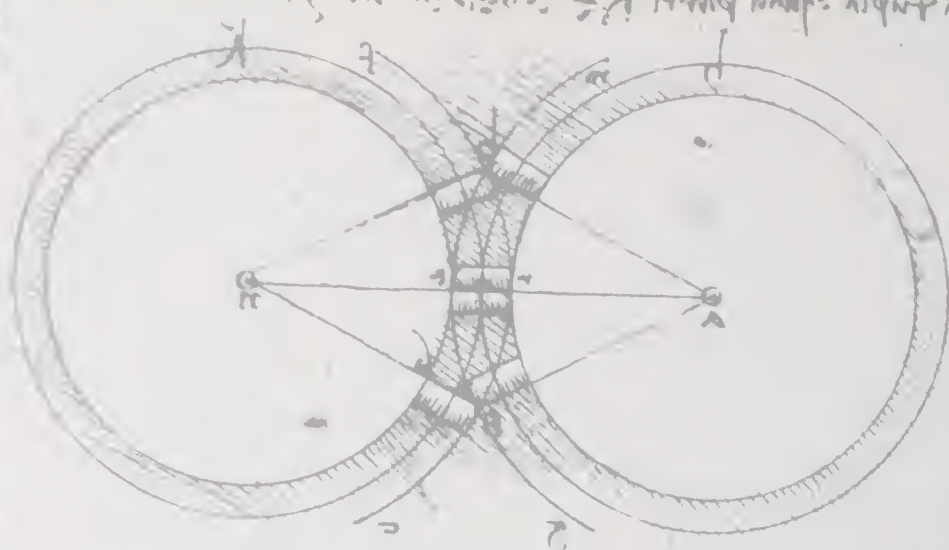




# Jivín Sister Fanny







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# Academics



"WE WERE THE FIRST THAT EVER BURST  
INTO THAT SILENT SEA"

— Samuel Taylor Coleridge  
*the Rime of the Ancient Mariner*

Teaching involves a discovery and a transmission of information. It entails seeking out the unknown and making it known. Teaching is personal and universal; it requires that information be supplied to others so that they can benefit from such discoveries or new areas of scholarship. Teachers change the way we look at the world, and they alter the manner in which we see ourselves. The best teachers make the growth and development of college as painless as possible, reaching many at once. They are the cocoons that help students develop from larvae into flying beauty.





Ackleh, Azmy  
 Adams, Ginger  
 Adeleye, Bernice  
 Adendorff, Johan  
 Agrusa, Jerome  
 Ahuja, Sunil  
 Aissi, Cherif  
 Alciatore, Pegge



Alciatore, Robert  
 Alexander, Evelyn  
 Alexander, Rachel  
 Alexandrian, Catherine  
 Alfred, John E.  
 Alfred, Marcus F.  
 Allain, Mathe  
 Allen, Barbara



Allingham, John  
 Alonso, Francisco  
 Alper, Garth  
 Amelincx, Frans  
 Amos, Samantha  
 Anderson, Charles L.  
 Anderson, Erika M.  
 Anderson, James E.



Andrepoint, John W.  
 Andriano, Joseph D.  
 Antley, Penny  
 Anzalone, Colette A.  
 Arceneaux, Clayton J.  
 Arceneaux, Gerri A.  
 Arceneaux, Lennie R.  
 Arceneaux, Shawn B.



Arehole, Shalini  
 Armistead, Jan S.  
 Arnold, Gary J.  
 Arsement, Suzanne C.  
 Artall, Carolyn C.  
 Arthur, Chris R.  
 Ashok-Kumar, Belur S.  
 Atkins, Caren P.



Augustine, Lloyd E.  
 Ault, Billie J.  
 Aultman, Gayle B.  
 Authement, Joel  
 Babin, Pennie  
 Babineaux, Anita M.  
 Babineaux, Anna M.  
 Babineaux, David M.



Babineaux, Leona O.  
 Babineaux, Lou A.  
 Babineaux, Paula R.  
 Babineaux, Sarah J.  
 Badeaux, Pauline H.  
 Badon, Linda C.  
 Baggett, James M.  
 Baker, H. V.



Bankston, Carl L.  
 Barashkov, Andrey I.  
 Barberousse, James M.  
 Barker, Henry  
 Barnett, Susan  
 Barry, Allen D.  
 Batiste, Beverly M.  
 Batiste, Carolyn



Batiste, Jeanette M.  
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 Baudier, Sue B.  
 Baudoin, Sharon A.  
 Bauer, Carl W.  
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 Bayoumi, Magdy A.



Beasley, Shelia F.  
 Beasley, Thomas H.  
 Beaulieu, Patricia W.  
 Beene, Katherine M.  
 Begnaud, Lorraine D.  
 Bellard, Charlotte L.  
 Bellemir, Cynthia A.  
 Benedik, Jacqueline R.



Benoit, Donald J.  
 Bergeron, Joseph  
 Bergeron, Mary  
 Bergeron, Pamela  
 Bergeron, Patricia  
 Berkeley, Istvan S.  
 Bernard, Bruce A.  
 Bernard, Charlene





# DR. RAY AUTHEMENT

Someone, or maybe fate, once told Ray Authement to do the math. He has, starting with a bachelor's degree in math and physics from USL in the early 1950s, and a master's and Ph.D. in math from LSU.



But, Baton Rouge or Lafayette isn't where Authement began his teaching career. He first taught at McNeese and for a compelling reason, "I was in dire financial circumstances, and they offered me more money," he said softly with a wry smile.

Authement seems to be a very low-key person, almost shy. But, his job generates a great deal of pressure. When money, politics, and education are added together, it equals a great deal of stress for the person making the final decisions on important matters. Yet, USL's president seems serene and at ease with the job he holds and its responsibilities.

Possibly it reflects the way he was raised and where he was born. A native of Boudreaux Canal, (South of Houma) Authement was the second of six children. His father owned a grocery store, and Authement said his father always stressed the importance of education. Authement was the valedictorian of his class at Terrebonne High. His parents then insisted he attend college instead of staying home to help with the family business. After college, Authement taught at McNeese—for just one year—before coming to USL to teach in 1957. Then in 1962, he went to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"My wife didn't like it, so we came back," he said with a laugh. Mrs. Authement's homesickness was USL's good fortune. They returned, and her husband began teaching math here, again. Authement became the academic vice president at USL in 1966.

"I became acting president in 1973 and president in 1974," Authement said of becoming USL's fifth president. That's when the decisions that come with the job became his to make, along with the scrutiny of those decisions by alumni, supporters, politicians, faculty, and students.

One of those decisions dealt with open vs. closed admissions at USL. "I was one of the first and strongest proponents of that development (for closing USL's open admission policy). There are way too many students who come to the university not knowing what they want to do, or some of them are not prepared to do what they think they want to do. They leave here with only a federal note or federal loan and nothing to show for it. Community college provides the opportunity for them to seek a particular career or goal at an associate's degree level or

make up some deficiency, before coming to a four-year institution. USL becomes a better institution because it's more selective, and its resources are spent on the academic programs for the students that can succeed," Authement said.

Paying for education has been a thorn in every educator's side. The need for money is insatiable and helping to raise it is another facet of Authement's job. He said that the current situation is improving. "We need to continue in the vein we are in. Last year, was an excellent year. Gov. Foster has really, really targeted higher education for improvement. Obviously, because of his interest in and push toward a new system of governance, in the last session they created a Board of Regents with more power than before and with the ability to better represent the universities in the legislature.

"Last year, our faculty got a raise of about 12.6 percent, on average, and that's the largest raise in the history of this university. We've seen significant improvement over the last couple of years," Authement said.

Gambling was supposed to help pay for education in Louisiana, according to some people. "That has not happened," Authement said quickly. "I'm not saying that none of the monies that we are getting are from gambling, because they are all intermingled in the general fund. But, I think the improvement in the economy has had more impact than that."

USL's past and future are on Authement's mind. "In my estimation, we've made unbelievable strides in the last five to seven years, in terms of academic programs. Some of our programs have moved into competition with major programs all over this country," Authement said.

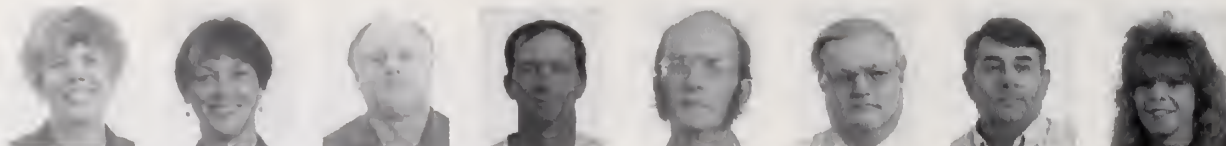
"There are outstanding people here, and they are coming to this university and helping it to grow. We've come a long way. We are light years ahead of where we were several years ago and it's being reflected in the support of the institutions. Federal funding for research is up three or four times from what it was four or five years ago. We are going to be an outstanding university in, I would say, the next 10 to 15 years," Authement said.

One of the main reasons for that success will be USL's fifth president. *M*

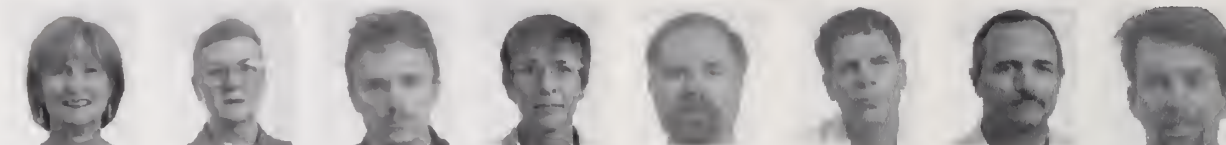
Story by David Gillis Photo by Lori Boutin



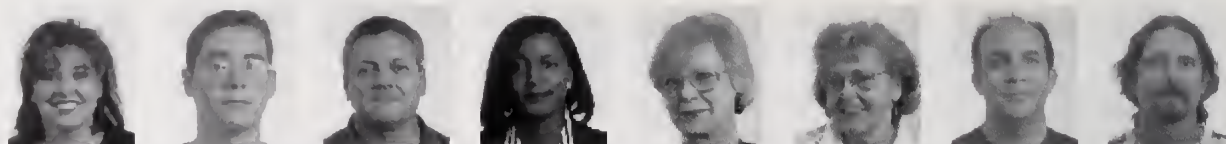
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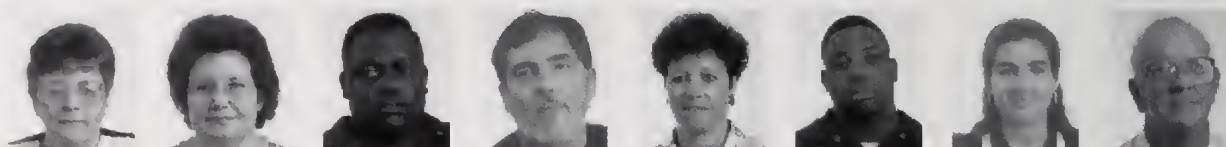
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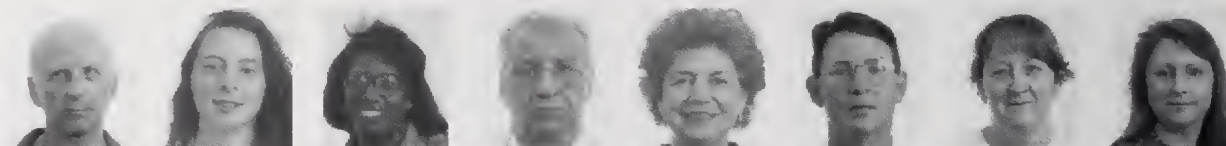
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Boullion, Grace  
Boullion, Thomas L



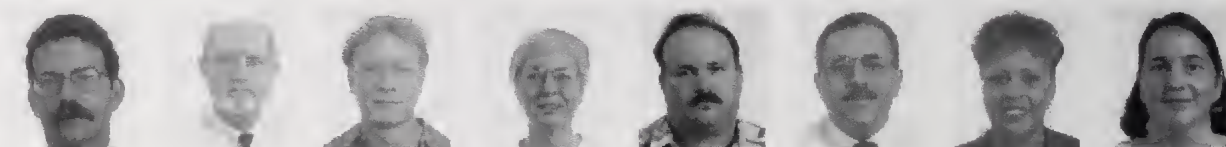
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Braithwaite, Susan A  
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Brasseaux, Carl A



Braun, Robert D  
Breau, Denise D  
Breau, Paula W  
Brice, Tommy C  
Brickley, Barbara  
Bridges, J M  
Brignac, Stephanie A  
Broadwater, Adrienne L



Broderick, John D  
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Broussard, Carolyn G



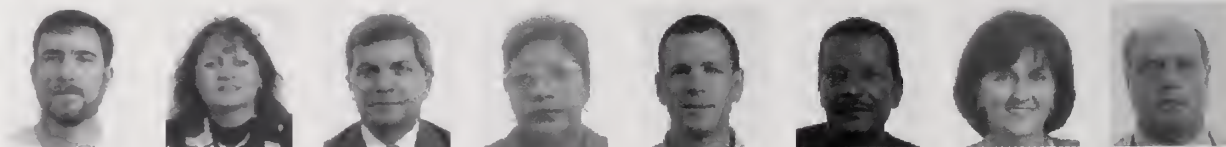
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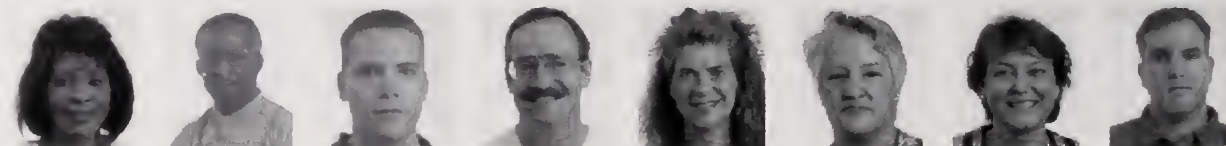
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Bulliard, Adele M  
Burkheiser, Patrick E  
Butler, Erin A  
Byrd, Forrest M



Byrnes, Walton M  
Cade, Toni M  
Caillouet, Louis P  
Calais, Nora M  
Caldas, Stephen J  
Campbell, Charles  
Capretz, Marilyn M  
Carlson, Gerald P



Carmouche, Marilyn  
Carmouche, Robert  
Carriker, Robert M  
Carson, Kerry  
Carson, Paula P  
Caruthers, Jacquelin P  
Castille, Donna L  
Castle, Ralph R





# DELLA BONNETTE

**USL's first female vice president has a ton of technical responsibilities on her shoulders, but you would never know it because of her cheerful demeanor.**



Della T. Bonnette is the vice president for Information Technology, which means she is responsible for 12 technical departments at USL, including Continuing Education, Information Networks, KRVS, Marine Survival Training Center, Telephone Services, University Computing Support Services, University Libraries, and others. It all adds up to a serious workload, but Bonnette said that she believes in delegating responsibility.

The native of Kansas said she feels right at home in Louisiana. "Lafayette is my home. I was born in Kansas and reared in Indiana. I tell everyone that I've lived in Louisiana long enough to have webbed feet. I've been at the university since 1970," she said laughing.

Bonnette is a product of USL. "I've got a degree in psychology and mathematics from the university, and then later came back and got my master's in computer science," Bonnette said. Shortly after that, she began teaching in the computer science department.

But, it was her work at the Welfare Department in Baton Rouge that led her to computers. "I was working as a social worker, and, as I moved into supervision, the professional literature was saying that computers were going to help take care of that paperwork. I decided that I was going to take a course in computer science. So, I came here and took one course and just absolutely fell in love with it. That was in 1968. I came back and got my master's and have been involved in computing ever since," Bonnette said. "I still find it to be so exciting."

Her father worked in the oil field and that brought him and his family to Jennings and close proximity to USL. "It was a school with a good reputation that was nearby," she said. "Computer science, well in 1968 it was one of the few

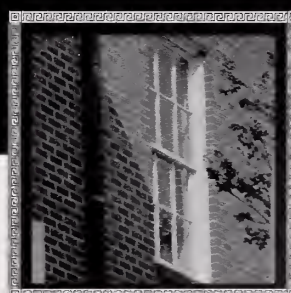
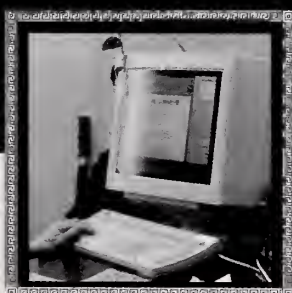
schools in the nation offering degrees in computer science. So, that was a natural."

Armed with a master's degree in computer science, Bonnette began teaching at USL. In the beginning of her career, things were a little hectic. "I taught probably, almost every course that was offered. We had a small faculty and a beginning program, but my special area was that of operating systems which involved the software needed to run programs," Bonnette explained.

One of the areas that Bonnette oversees deals with efforts to comply with the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the American Disability Act, and sexual harassment cases involving faculty, students, and employees.

"I'm the affirmative action officer on campus. So, in that role, I'm the coordinator of anyone who is concerned about hiring practices as related to equal employment opportunities on campus. Under that goes the area of sexual harassment, and I also coordinate the Americans With Disability Act.

There are few cases of sexual harassment on the campus, according to Bonnette. But, a system is in place to handle complaints confidentially. "If you have a complaint, you can go to one of three areas. You can come to me, you can go to Counseling and Testing, to Dr. Blair, or you can go through student services. We tried to set it up so there are several points where people can go to file a complaint so they wouldn't feel inhibited because it might be in their academic chain. Or, they might have concerns that it might not be listened to. So, there are three areas that you can go to, to express your concerns or to file a complaint if that's what you want to do," Bonnette said.





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 Champagne, Robert



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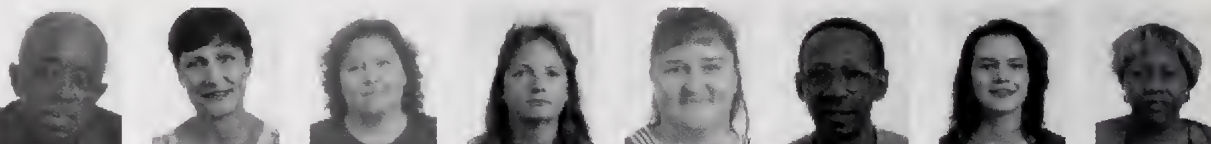
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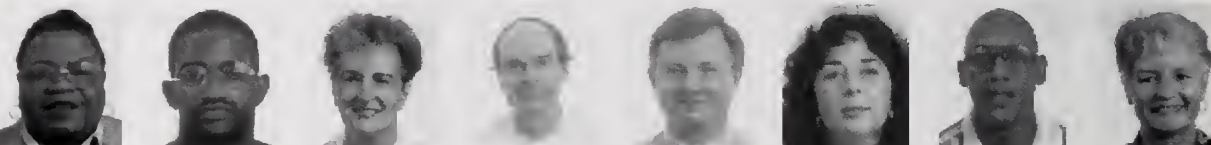
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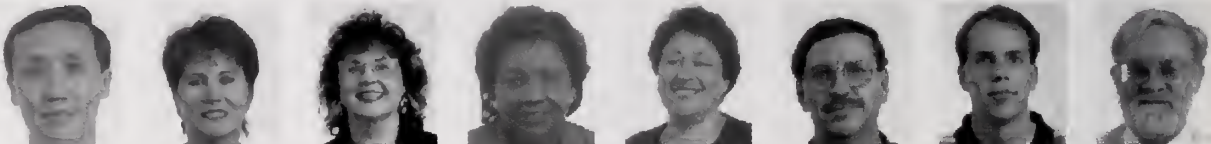
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 Do, Son Q  
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 Donohue, Daniel  
 Dore', Brian  
 Doucet, Cheryl D  
 Doucet, Kim L





# JOEY STURM

**Theft on campus by students and non-students is the biggest problem faced by the USL community, said USL's new police chief Joey Sturm.**



The 28-year-old Sturm is a graduate of USL and a native of New Iberia. He earned a degree in education but circumstances led him to a career in law enforcement. Sturm said that he had worked as a student-officer and later as an assistant to former chief, Mark Cossich.

"I wasn't just promoted," Sturm said. "When Mark left they advertised for the position. I went through the qualification and screening committee interviews."

Chief Sturm is in charge of 51 officers, including 14 full-time officers. The rest of the force is composed of students who are attending USL.

"The theory behind the program is that, it better allows the officers to—because they are also students—associate with the students on campus. They understand what those students are going through, because they are going through the same thing," Sturm said with a rueful laugh as he seemed to be remembering his own student-officer days.

Student officers also receive experience helping to keep the campus safe. That experience leads to post-certification and law enforcement experience, "That can open doors for them later," Sturm said. Part of their training takes place in a police academy that teaches modern law enforcement techniques and theories.

USL student-officers act in the same capacity as a full-time officer which makes them special. "From what I've been told, it (USL's program) is only one of five in the country," that gives its student-officers that much authority, Sturm said. "Most universities will have them, but they'll have them work in plain clothes, or they may wear a different uniform and write parking tickets, and do the parking enforcement," Sturm said.

"The majority of our problems, that are theft related, are

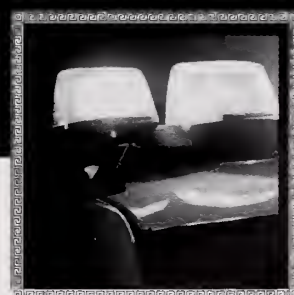
things that are left unattended. You can attribute that to students, but also to a lot of non-students coming on to the campus, particularly in the daytime," Sturm said.

"That's really our theme, our purpose, our mission, is to become more of an educator as a department, in sync with the university's mission. Our area, obviously, would be crime prevention, security and safety tips, self-defense, and date-rape issues," Sturm said. But, he takes issue with the classification of date-rape. "It's not a good word to use; a rape is a rape."

Education and prevention play an important role in Sturm's vision of law enforcement. "Recently, one of our female officers was certified in a nationally certified program in self-defense." According to Sturm, the program—geared specifically for women—educates individuals on being aware of their surroundings and how to react to physical confrontations. It also explains how to get out of threatening situations. "It is a 16-hour program, and we are discussing right now how we are going to implement that. We will probably do it in blocks so we can accommodate the students," Sturm said. The program will be offered to any female student, faculty member, or staff member.

Sturm wants students to do two things to help keep USL safe: Be responsible for your own belongings and don't leave them unattended. And, always carry your USL ID so that officers know who you are, and why you are on the campus.

Sturm said that he wants the USL police department to become more pro-active and start programs to help prevent crime instead of reacting to crimes that have already been committed. "In the end, it will make us a much safer community," he said. *M*





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Douglas, Linda C  
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Ducharme, Betty  
Ducx, Timothy W  
Dugal, James



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Duggar, Jan W  
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Duhon, Theresa  
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Efe, Kemal  
Ehrhardt, Dennis K  
Elmore, Connie D  
Elsayed, Mostafa A  
Ennis, Don G  
Esters, Irvin  
Evans, Cheryl



Evans, Jessie R  
Fang, Cheng S  
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Fatheree, Donna S  
Faul, Brent L  
Felder, Darryl L  
Felgenhauer, Bruce E  
Feng, Gui-Liang



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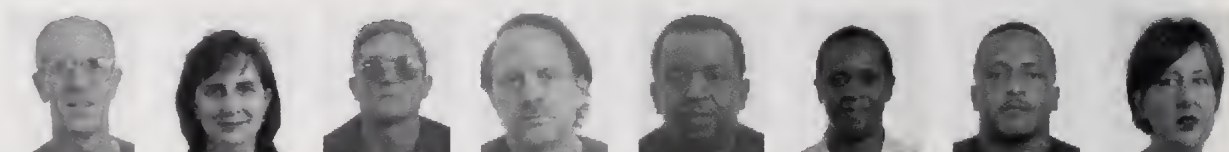
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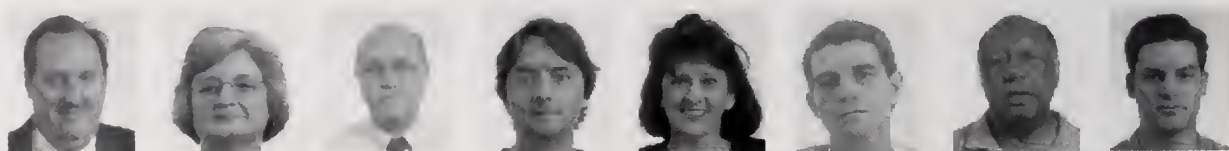
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Gaskin, Edward  
Gastineau, Lucien O  
Gatch, Wendel H  
Gaudet, Irby J





# NIAN-FENG TZEN

*T*he ecology of the Louisiana coastal region as well as the ecology of the world's coastal regions and how they relate to each other, are under investigation by USL's Center for Advanced Computer Studies.



Nian-Feng Tzeng, Ph.D., is from Taiwan, but he is beginning to feel like a Cajun. "This is the place that I have stayed the longest (in the United States) so far. I came here (to USL) in June, 1987, so it has been more than 10 years," Tzeng said laughing.

Tzeng's work at USL combines research with teaching at the graduate level.

"Basically, my research areas are related to high performance computer systems. The second one is computer networks. For example, we have been trying to use this satellite that can monitor eco systems of our wetlands. That satellite can monitor wetland change and eco system change. That is where my research, that I am interested in now, utilizes a collection of work stations," Tzeng explained.

The high speed collection of data and the computations and analysis of that data will enable Tzeng, his colleagues and his students to monitor changes in the eco system. Any changes can be displayed and studied in real time.

Academic life and endeavors lured Tzeng away from ATT. "After I graduated from the University of Illinois in 1986, I worked for one year at ATT's labs, where I was involved in some switching system design. During that one year, I found that I liked the academic environment better, so I decided to move to

the universities. At that time, I received several offers. But I found that USL is the best in terms of research setting and in terms of administrative support," Tzeng said.

That support must be comforting when dealing with the complex projects that Tzeng is involved with as well as his teaching assignments.

"Since I came here, I've been teaching several courses regularly, including computer architecture, fault tolerant computing, distributed computing and now it's computing networks," Tzeng said.

Computer networks involve the linking of personal computer work stations that let the multiple small computers form a single super computer.

"We don't need to buy a super computer on site, what we need is a collection of reasonably powerful work stations and they can work together as long as they are connected, using for example, Ethernet. We connect all the work stations together and we can convert this collection of computers into a synchronized, powerful super computer, if you will. That's what I'm working on," Tzeng said.

By linking the 40 to 50 workstations that Tzeng has available to him at USL, the system's speed is increased 10 times or more he said. *M*

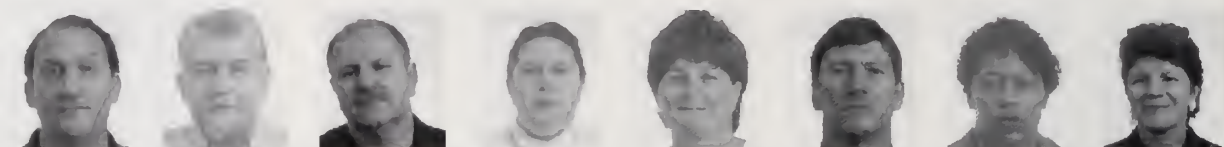




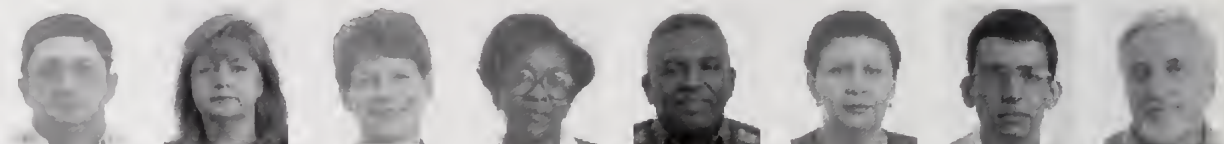
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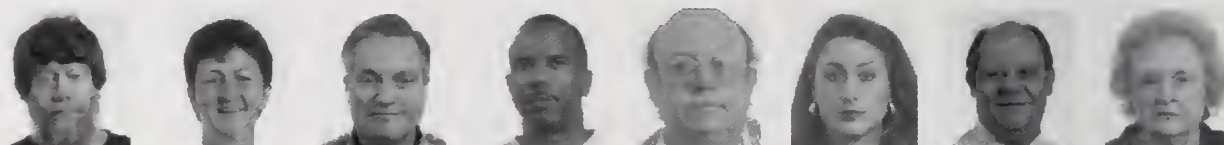
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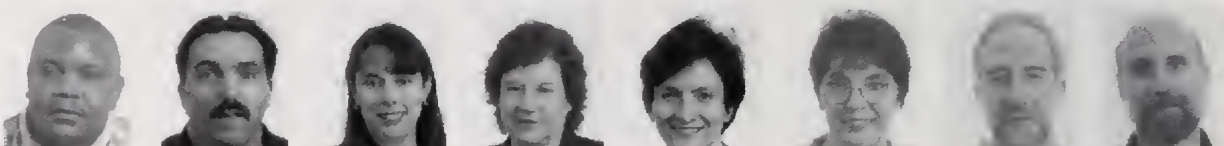
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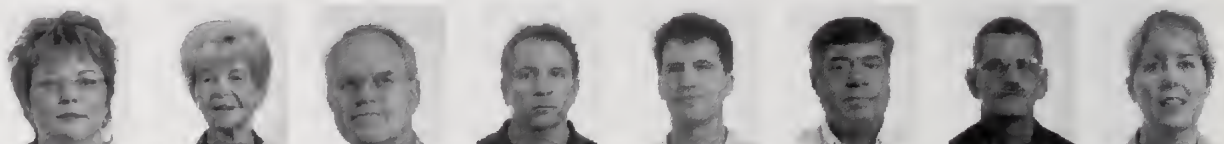
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Holmes, Terence L  
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# DANIEL CRING

**Dr. Daniel Cring, professor of anthropology, has turned a life-long interest in archeology into a way to help police officials in murder investigations.**



Originally from Florida, Cring grew up in Europe. He fell in love with Archaeology as a teenager exploring Roman ruins in Spain. He received his B.A. in anthropology in 1972 and his M.A. in 1978 in biological anthropology at Florida State University. He obtained his P.H.D. at the University of Florida.

"I was probably the only twelve year old who knew how to spell archaeology," he concluded. "Anthropology is interesting because it deals with anything having to do with history."

At USL, Cring teaches all four sub-fields of anthropology: biological, linguistic, cultural and archaeological as well as underwater, medical and forensic anthropologies. Cring is consulted by parish officials because of his expertise in forensic anthropology. He is asked to identify remains pertaining to murder investigations or similar cases, like that of missing persons. Cring has been volunteering in this manner for about 10 years.

"I started teaching a course on forensic anthropology about 10 years ago, when I first came to USL," recalled Cring, "because we had a large criminal justice department that year. At that time, forensic anthropology was still a relatively new field, and the class attracted many University police officers as well as criminal justice majors."

Cring explained that this first class on forensic anthropology was the starting point of his involvement in these investigations.

"In 1988, the following year, there was a dismemberment case at a canning plant on the banks of the Vermilion," explained Cring. "An arm was found in the digestion ponds, where blades chew up waste products. The detective in charge of the investigation had taken

my course the previous year and gave me a call. We were able to identify the individual but unable to determine the cause of death. I think an official statement was made that he died under suspicious circumstances."

Cring also emphasized that he would much rather work in the field of preventing violence rather than sorting through its grim results.

"It's a matter of business," he emphasized. "I really don't relish doing this kind of work. I'd rather be engaged in prevention. Just about any biological anthropologist can do this. I do enjoy the detective work," Cring said.

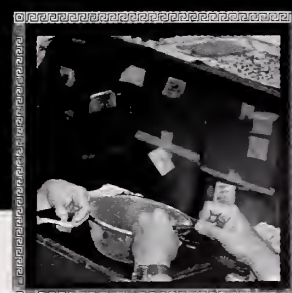
Cring firmly believes that murder is one of the social consequences of the overpopulation problem the world is facing today.

"I am interested in murder, genocide, and documenting results of human behavior," Cring stated. "We are usually well versed in the environmental consequences of overpopulation but not in social consequences like these. It's important to get the message out, the solution to the increasing violence in our societies is to stem human population."

Along with Dr. Sparrow, USL Director of Minority Affairs, Cring speaks about Race and Racism at about five Police Academy training sessions each year.

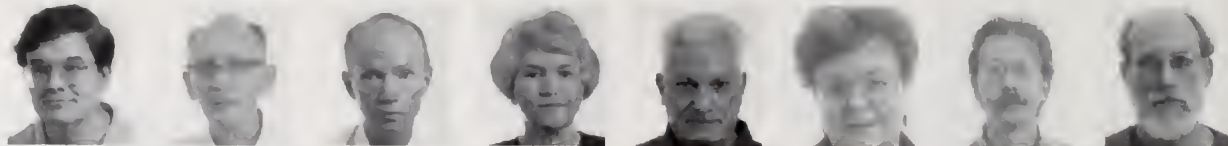
He also lectures on Forensic Anthropology when prime investigation techniques are being studied. "I do a two hour lecture on Forensic Anthropology in which I describe the type of information that can be obtained from a human skeleton," he said.

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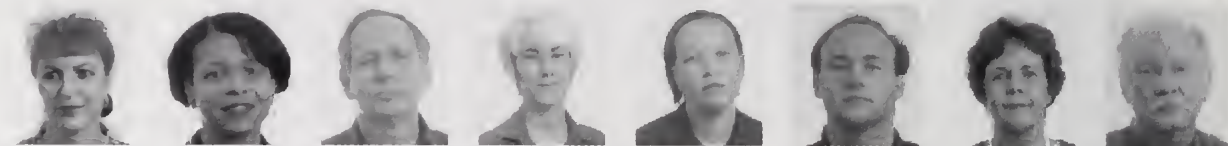
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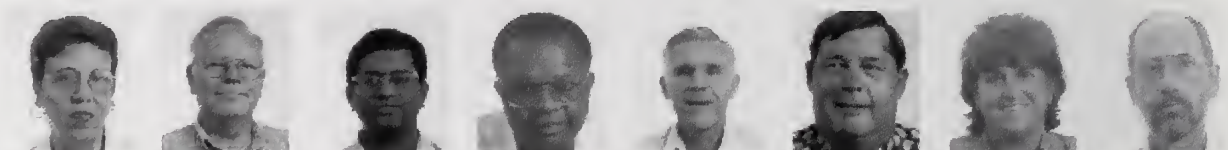
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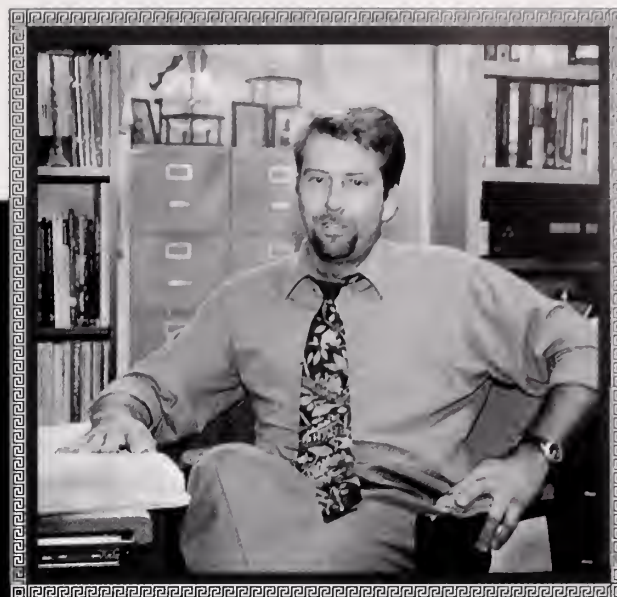
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Lapoint, James J  
Laroussini, Jill H





# GRIFF BLAKEWOOD

Griff Blakewood is passionate about his work. An assistant professor of renewable resources, Blakewood believes that Americans today have lost touch with nature and are consequently, exploiting their environment.



"The biggest problem with the environment," he said, "is that all of us are using it, but none of us are thinking about it. All of us are breathing the air and drinking the water. We're eating the foods grown in the soil, but since none of us are thinking about these relationships, we have lost the ability to live responsibly."

According to Blakewood, since the Renaissance, people have stopped viewing the earth as an organic being and have started treating it like a machine. "Chickens and cows are meat machines and plants are also food machines," said Blakewood. The problem, according to some ecopsychologists, is that human beings are born with an innate relationship to nature and the schism that is present today is exacerbating feeling of alienation and disconnectedness.

"One of the drawbacks of modern science," said Blakewood, "is that it has destroyed all sense that there is something beyond just the physical realm. It has robbed us of our sense of the sacred. We won't want to preserve something that we don't love, and that idea of biophilia is lacking today."

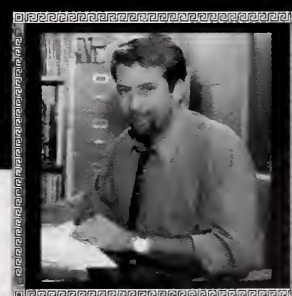
Blakewood appeared on an AOC program last year to talk about James Lovelock's book, *Gaia*, which he assigns his students to read. The work is a scientific discussion of the earth as a living entity and relates the earth as a living entity, or, as Buber would say, "I-thou" rather than an "I-it." Blakewood

teaches three environmental science classes on campus. The first focuses on the sustainability of resources and the maximization of their usefulness without compromising the availability of these resources to future generations. The second class he teaches contrasts perceptions of the world with the actual function of the biosphere, while the third class "starts to dissect human institutions like economics, politics, religion, and education to see whether or not they're evolving in a way that is compatible with the biosphere."

Blakewood said he appeals to students because he focuses on ideas and tries to relate them to the real world. Some of his senior students cultivate small plots of land to simulate an ecosystem on a small scale. "Our management of ecosystems has to happen on a human scale. It has become almost impossible at this point to handle them at the global level."

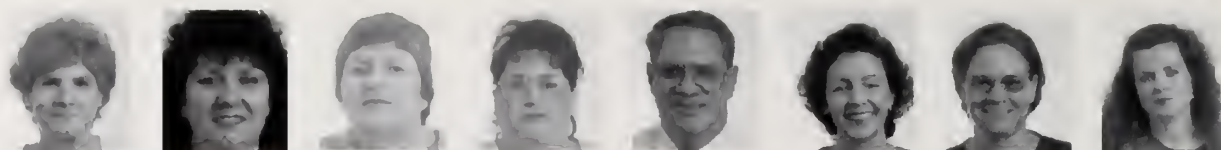
Blakewood said he tries to teach his two young sons—ages two and six—an appreciation for the environment necessary for a sense of wholeness by camping and keeping plenty of bird feeders in the yard.

"There's something artificial about keeping pets," he said. "I don't have anything against it, but I think we ought to be able to move beyond just keeping animals as pets to appreciating them for their own sake." *M*





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Laurents, Donna M  
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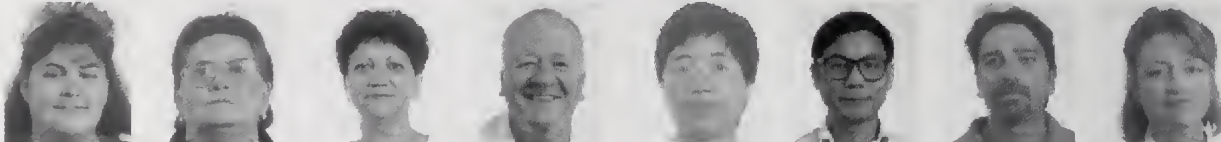
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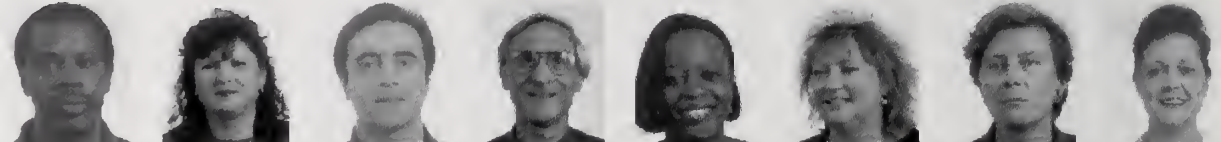
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McMillan, William W





# CHRIS ARTHUR

**F**or Dr. Chris Rodgers Arthur becoming a teacher was the most natural thing in the world. The oldest of four children, Arthur said, "Both of my parents were teachers. I come from a family of teachers."

Born in Monroe, LA, Arthur attended Dillard University in New Orleans and received a bachelor's degree in psychology with an emphasis on special education. Although she wanted to stay close to home while going to graduate school, she was recruited by Ohio State University, the school from which she earned her Ph.D. in special education.

Arthur said that, at the time, the campus population at Ohio State was larger than her hometown.

She returned to Louisiana in 1994, after having been out-of-state for 17 years, and began working for USL in September of that year. At USL, she teaches special education in the curriculum and instruction department.

"The discipline is becoming more inclusive," she said. "We are rapidly meeting the needs of more children."

Coming back home, Arthur said, has been "very rewarding. It's been really wonderful watching the children get to know the environment." Arthur is the mother of four children—Cobinah, Adjoa, Ama, and Esi. "I have one who graduated from Lafayette High in the spring of this year, and I have one who starts high school in the fall."

Because her oldest child left the state at

such a young age, she thinks it is important for the children to gain an impression of the area. "It helps them develop a better sense of me as a person," she said

Arthur said a trend that she has noticed on campus is an increase in the number of students who are working and going to college. "A lot of people are juggling different responsibilities. I'm impressed with that. It shows that education is important to people."

When asked what she enjoys doing in her spare time, she said bemusedly, "Good question. Spare time? Do I have any?" When not managing her full-time responsibilities as a mother, she does a great deal of research on early childhood development, as well as on prevention and intervention methods for at-risk children.

"Teaching is an art and a science," Arthur said. "Skills can be taught on instruction, but there's also an intrinsic quality that makes a good teacher."

"A good teacher helps students to take risks and to be brave. They create an environment in which students can take risks and remove the fear of choosing the wrong answer. They make it O.K. to take risks."

*M*





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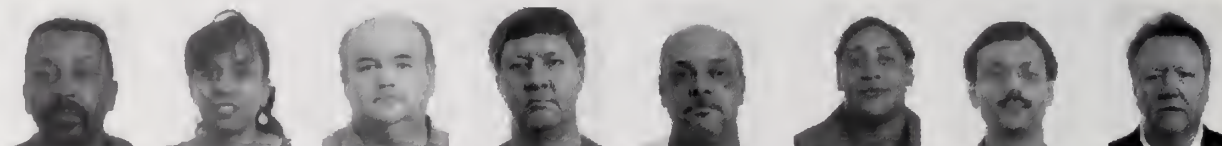
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# FRANCISCA ALONSO

*To be a great teacher, one has to understand his or her students, and one must do their best to make the students comprehend the subject.*



Francisca Alonso, a Spanish teacher, does this not only with her experience as a teacher, but with her experiences in her life. Alonso grew up in Cuba and attended college there until 1959, just as the Cuban Revolution was starting.

"The country changed, of course, and we had to sign up for military instruction for things like how to handle a weapon, how to march, and things like that," Alonso said. "They (the government) started all of those policies on the university. I did not agree to do this; there was no democracy anymore. In a communist system, you have to do it. I couldn't attend the university after that."

Her brother, who taught in Florida, helped to get people out of Cuba. Alonso left Cuba in November, 1960 to live with her brother in Florida.

How did she get to Louisiana? Her brother had former students living in Baton Rouge. "They (the students) were talking about this new school (LSU). My brother talked to them and said that his sister wanted to continue her studies, and he asked if they could submit my transcript to LSU. That's how I came to Louisiana."

Starting school was difficult for Alonso. "I had to start from the bottom up because I didn't know any English at all. I studied English first, and it was very hard." She graduated from LSU with a bachelors in Liberal Arts. Coming to USL was an accident.

"I was first going to LSU for graduate work, but I needed an assistantship. I started too late, and all of the positions were taken. Then they told me about USL, and I started working on my master's and I taught at the same time. I received my master's from USL." She went to Spain in 1974 and performed doctoral studies through

the University of Virginia.

When asked how her life in Lafayette is compared with the life she had in Cuba, she replied, "I can't compare. I grew up there. That's the only thing you know. Looking at that life, it was a different age and a different time. When you grow up and get older, you have another country, another life, and you look at that life in a different way."

Alonso's first intentions were not to become a teacher; actually, she didn't exactly know what she wanted to do. "I started school but was disoriented in the beginning. It took about one year to find out what I wanted to do. You have an idea. You try the idea and then you work for it and finally feel like you are in the right place."

When asked what was one of the worst things about being a teacher, Alonso replied, "In general, the attitude of the students, because you can't come to school and get something for nothing. If you don't put in any effort, you cannot make it. But this is not the attitude of all of my students."

"I have wonderful students. They still come by and visit me." She pointed to a plant on her desk and said, "That was given to me by one of my classes in appreciation. That fulfills you when students do things like that. Sometimes I receive cards," she said leaning over and pulling out a drawer full of hundreds of cards from her students. "When they write things like 'Thank you', that is great."

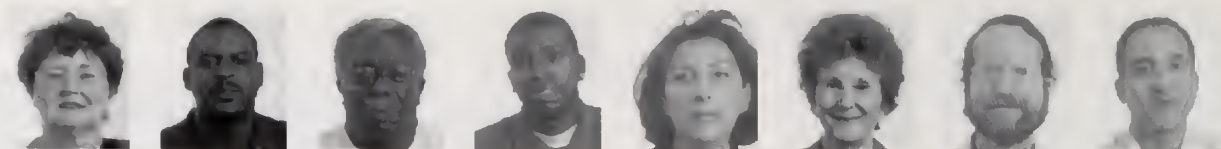
Being a teacher for Alonso is, "... wonderful. It's like having a family. It's like teaching a child how to talk and do something for themselves. I wouldn't change it for anything in the world," she said.

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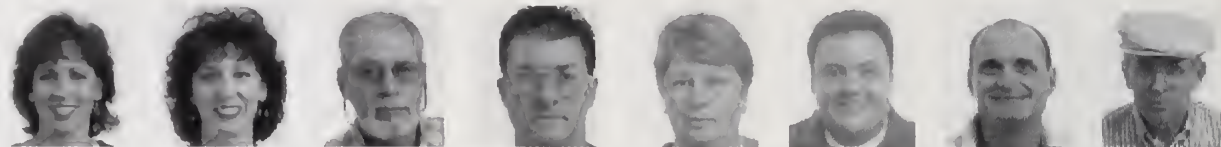




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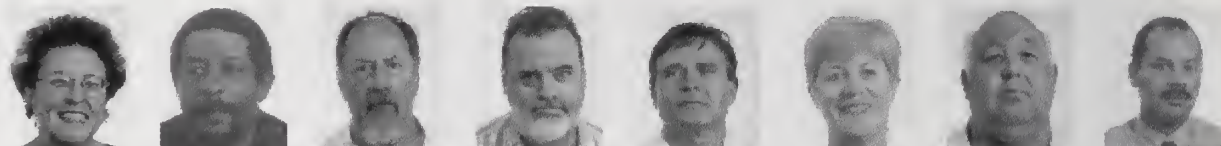
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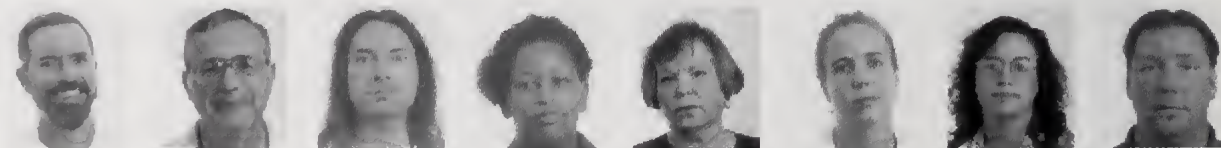
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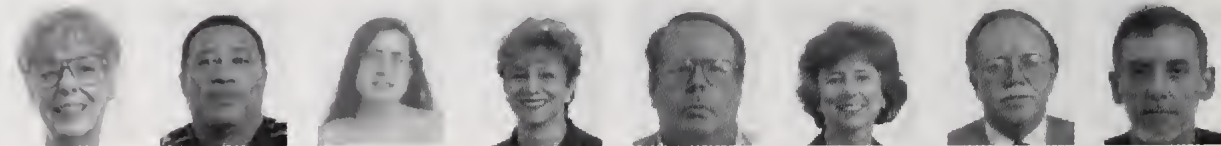
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# BRYAN LAFAYE

**W**hen Brian Lafaye assumed the position of Director of the University Art Museum in 1996, he was glad to come back to South Louisiana.

Lafaye grew up in New Orleans, and he still has family members living in the southern part of Louisiana.

"I wanted to get back to South Louisiana because of the joy of life that exists here," he said. "Lafayette has a great art community, and I was truly impressed with the quality of the University's permanent collection which includes over 1,000 objects."

Lafaye completed his bachelor's degree in Fine Arts at Louisiana College, a private college, in Pineville, La. He then moved on to graduate school at Clemson University in South Carolina where he taught Art History as a Teaching Assistant. After receiving his master's degree in fine arts at Clemson, his passion for art lead him to take a job as a curator of exhibitions and collections at the Alexandria Museum of Art for two years.

"I really like working in a University environment," Lafaye commented, "I missed the kind of dialogue that occurs in an academic setting. I was also excited to learn that part of the requirements of this position would be to teach a course each semester in Visual Arts."

Lafaye teaches a class in visual arts appreciation every semester. He averages about 125 students a class.

"It's a pretty large class," he remarked. "It covers 25,000 years of art history in four months so there's a lot of information. I've taught seminar classes in the past, so I try to deliver the textbook information while approaching the class from a seminar perspective. I encourage students to share their ideas and their perceptions on what they are seeing. This class opens channels for conversation. I try to challenge my students' notions about art."

Lafaye is continually challenging his own notions

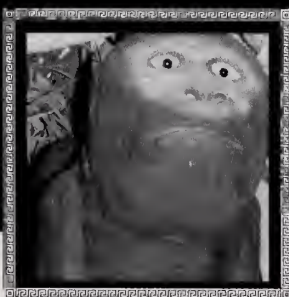
and perceptions about art as an artist who often reevaluates and makes adjustments to his own work. He calls himself a "painter by trade."

"I walk a line between abstraction and representational art," Lafaye said, in reference to his own work. "Pure abstraction is specifically geared towards a spiritual search. The artist is looking internally. It's more of an isolated experience, whereas representational art deals more with human kind's situation. I've been using a lot of painting of chairs in my new work to represent the paradox between stability and chaos in our life. I incorporate beeswax in my art to portray the rawness of nature and to give the paintings a skin-like or flesh-like surface as well."

As an artist, Lafaye has had his work exhibited at the Shooting Star Gallery in New Orleans in 1996 and has two exhibitions scheduled for 1997, one at the Cafe Des Amis in Breaux Bridge and one at the Alexandria Museum of Arts.

"This job allows me to focus more on my work," Lafaye pointed out. "I had no time for that when I was working as a Curator. I would like to try and exhibit more."

Lafaye feels that his position also presents a very challenging task. "The University and the Lafayette Community demand and deserve a museum that they can be proud of," he added. "We have a great responsibility to bring to this community art that people wouldn't necessarily have an opportunity to see. I also feel a responsibility towards the students who graciously give us great programming funds out of their tuition."





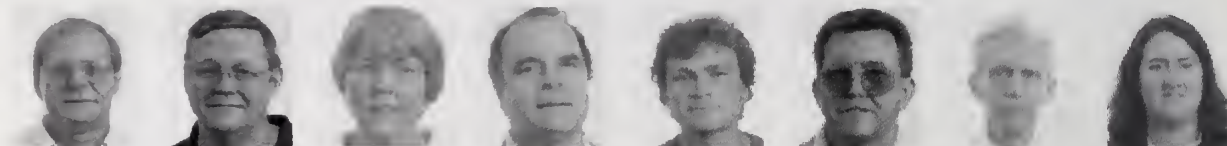
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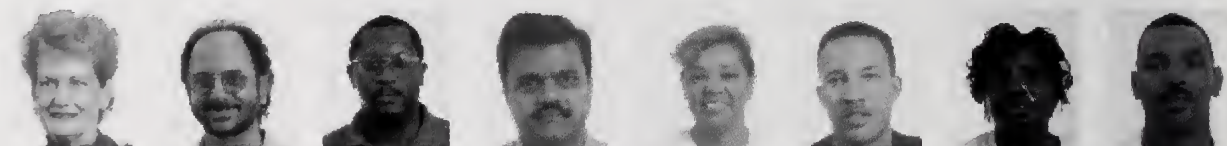
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 Tazelaar, Sally E  
 Tessier, Marcelle M  
 Thames, Kathleen A





# SUSAN BARNETT

*Just like a caterpillar becomes a butterfly, Susan Barnett has made the successful transition from student to career woman and mom.*



Barnett is the Student Government Association's full-time secretary. She is also a full-time mom to two boys—Kris and Gary.

A native of Lafayette, Barnett has worked with SGA since 1994. "Even though I lived in Alaska for six years, due to my husband's enlistment in the military, Lafayette and USL have and always will be my home," she said.

Barnett attended USL from 1969-71, and at that time, majored in art and architecture. She returned to USL in 1989 and pursued an associate of business science degree. After graduation, she made the successful change from student to university employee.

Barnett keeps the SGA running smoothly by handling all of the paperwork that goes in and out of the office. She also takes messages for SGA members, records the minutes of meetings and processes the applications of students who wish to run for office. She is also a member of the SGA Scholarship Committee and helps out the yearbook staff during the year as well.

"I just love my job," Barnett said. "What else can I say, I love it. The SGA is a great organization. I want the students of USL to know that I am always here to help. If I can't help them with

their problem, I will try my hardest to help them find a way to solve it."

At 4:30 p.m. Barnett makes a daily metamorphosis, one from employee to mom. "I like to spend time with my boys. Gary and Kris are my life, and I am proud of them both."

Kris, a senior in high school, was born about six miles from the north pole. Gary is a student at USL and is following in his mom's footsteps by majoring in business.

When asked about USL's growth over the years that she has been on campus, Barnett stated "I feel the university has grown for the good of the students, and this really makes this university stand clearly above the rest."

When not in her roles as secretary or mom, Barnett enjoys reading Dean Kootz, walking, sketching, and working with her hands. She also likes to travel. She spent 17 years traveling with her husband and her kids as a military wife.

"My favorite place is Alaska; it is beautiful."

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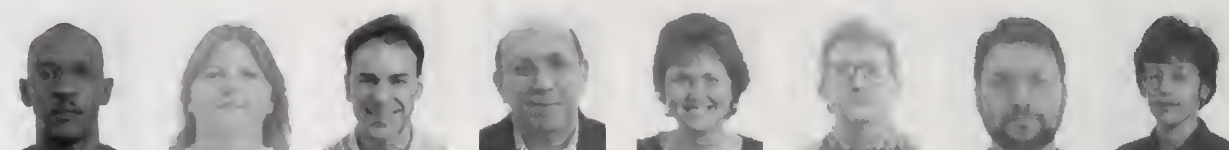




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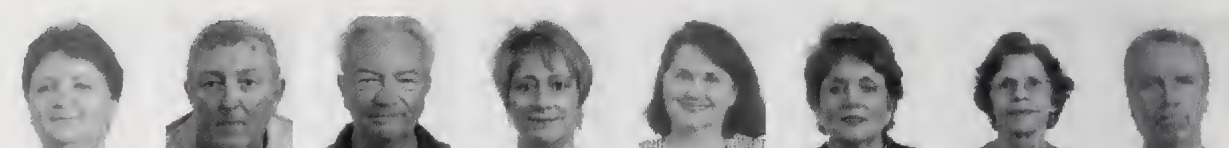
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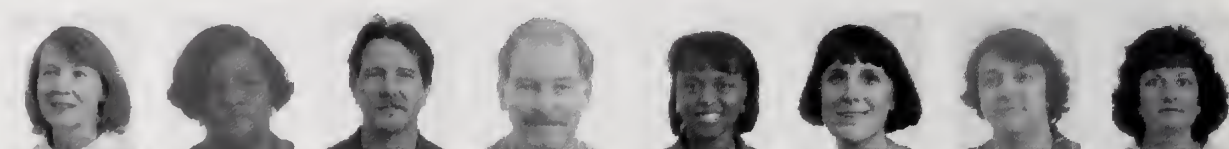
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# JERRY MCGUIRE

**Jerry McGuire, Director of Creative Writing at USL and Faculty Advisor to the Southwestern Review, the English Department's yearly journal publication, always wanted to be a teacher.**



"I've always thought of myself as a teacher," McGuire explained. "Years ago, when I was in the service, we were brought to a big gymnasium and asked to fill out papers about our long term goals. I was only nineteen years old, but I knew I wanted to get my B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. at certain dates and then become a professor."

McGuire has been teaching Creative Writing undergraduate and graduate classes at USL since 1995. Having taught at other institutions, he feels this University offers a unique teaching experience.

"Every teaching situation is its own package," he stressed. "Students are made up of a different mix of people in each place. I am most comfortable with places that have a vivid culture enabling people to know who they are. Here, people have a cultural tradition that they are relying on, but they also understand that tradition doesn't solve everything, that change is constantly something they need to pay attention to."

After serving in the U.S. Air Force for four years, (from 1966 to 1970), he graduated from Wesleyan University in 1976 as a Summa Cum Laude with bachelor's degrees in English and Linguistics. Even though getting a master's degree was part of his academic plan, he decided to go straight for his Ph.D. at the State University of New York at Buffalo. He succeeded in 1981 when he obtained his Doctorate in English Poetics with a Minor in Rhetoric and Linguistics.

After teaching at the State University College in Buffalo, the University of Florida in Gainesville, and the Widener University in Pennsylvania, McGuire had an opportunity to be a lecturer of Poetics and American

Literature for two years (from 1985 to 1987) in Rumania on a Fulbright Fellowship.


"I was there at the time of the Nikolai Ceaucescu totalitarian government," McGuire specified. "His regime and police force made it extremely difficult to make contact with Rumanians. I especially wanted to learn as much as I could from poets in that part of the world."

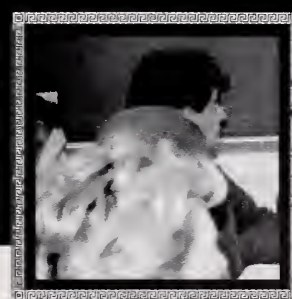
His stay in Rumania seems to have influenced his philosophy about life and suffering.

"I want to try and understand the world and do what it takes to contribute to the discussion of how people suffer in failing to penetrate the mysteries of life. I want to persuade people to gain a clearer understanding of the suffering going on in the world instead of trying to solve the situation by using violent means which usually don't work."

McGuire writes poetry and short fiction and has published a book entitled, *The Flagpole Dance*, in 1990 as well as several articles on film and Shakespeare in different scholarly journals.

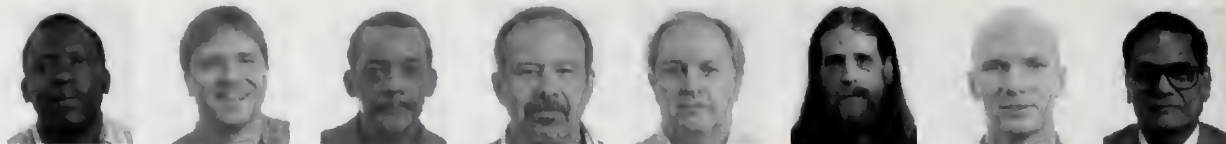
He is very interested in film as a discipline and how it relates to literature.

"I'm interested in film as an art form that appeals to the eye whereas literature appeals to the mind," McGuire explained. "I like the immediacy of film. I like to study how an audience or individuals process a visual metaphor, an image. I do Film Studies which is a discipline that studies how films are made, and how they project their meaning. Filming is a tool that can be used to explore diverse themes, like myths for example." 

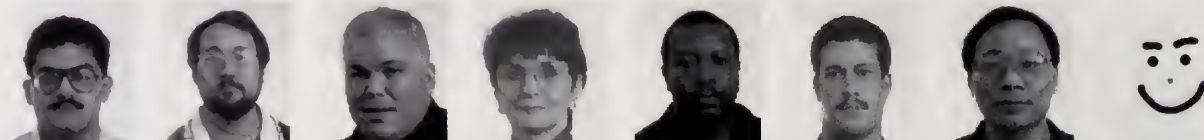




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## COMMUNITY COLLEGE BILL EQUALS CLOSED ADMISSIONS FOR USL

On June 23, the State Legislature—on the final day of its 1997 session—passed a bill that would establish the South Louisiana Community College.

The House voted 88-0 to accept the bill.

As a result, USL began preparations to become a closed admissions university, possibly by the fall of 1998, when the community college system is in operation.

"It's not definite yet because we have not petitioned the Board of Trustees," Dr. Gary Marotta, Vice President for Academic Affairs told The Vermilion last summer. "Dr. Authement has told me to get a planning group together to set up some guidelines."

Marotta, along with Director of Academic Planning Barbara Cicardo, Vice President for Information Technology Della Bonnette, Director of Minority Affairs Kathleen Sparrow, and Director of Institutional Research Harry Hebert, will make recommendations to the University Council to discuss the aspects of closed admissions at USL.

The Board of Trustees, according to Marotta, has the final determination for criteria for closed admissions at the university. "We will make recom-

mendations on what the requirements would be." High school GPA, high school class rank, and ACT scores will probably be used in some combination to determine entrance requirements, much like the matrix the NCAA uses to determine who receives athletic scholarships, Marotta said.

The final determination of entrance requirements will be set by the Board of Trustees, and USL is expected to gradually increase the criteria over time.

The move to closed admissions is expected to save the university money

on remedial classes, although USL does not expect to eliminate all remedial classes. The move will also add to the prestige of the University as a whole and increase the prestige that is associated with a degree from USL.



photo by Tracy Gardner



# JAMES WILLETT

**"We are the best in the state. We are, and that's been proven by an independent rating organization that came in, and they told us we are the best biology department in the state. No ifs, ands, or buts about it," James M. Willett said.**



One of the reasons USL's biology department excels is the involvement of the students in the learning process, Willett said. "We want to make it interesting for students."

Willett is the laboratory coordinator for the biology department. He was born in Oklahoma but, "raised here in Louisiana—fourth grade through college. So, I consider myself some sort of a semi-Cajun, even though I don't speak French," he said smiling.

Willett earned a bachelor's degree in bacteriology from SLI (Southwest Louisiana Institute) in 1957, before the school's name was changed to USL. He earned his master's degree from USL in 1990. "I thought if they went ahead and made the name change to the University of Louisiana, it would be neat to get another degree here. Then, I would have three degrees from three different (schools) at the same place," Willett said laughing with delight at the idea.

In the interval between earning his degrees, Willett led an interesting life. He first joined the Navy. He had joined the Navy Reserve when he was a senior in high school and stayed in it when he went to college. After college, he earned an ensign's bar in the Navy. "I sailed on little ships," Willett said. Asked what his job was, he said, "Well, since I

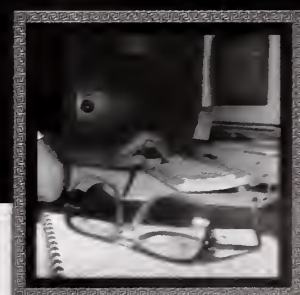
had a degree in bacteriology, they made me an anti-submarine warfare officer since I knew absolutely nothing about it." He chose the Navy, "because the food was supposed to be better."

Just before he was discharged from the Navy, Willett went to Washington, D.C. to visit some friends. "I saw the National Institute of Health and went in and filled out an application blank and had a call waiting for me when I got home two days later," he said. "Which (the institute) is just a great big teaching and research hospital," Willett explained. "I was a microbiologist, what we call a bench microbiologist."

A supervisor asked Willett if he would be interested in a different job. The supervisor asked if Willett would be interested in a job as a DIFCO representative. "It's Digestive Ferments Co. What they do is make dehydrated culture medium that's used in the microbiology laboratory. Basically it's a sales job. There were only 12 of us (culture salesmen) in the nation," Willett said.

USL's biology department is excellent, Willett said. But, he doesn't feel that the department is properly recognized. "It would be nice if all of the faculty were paid what they are worth," Willett said.

M





# DAVID CHANEY

Soccer has taken off in popularity in Lafayette lately, and David Chaney, is one person who can be credited with much of soccer's popularity in Acadiana. His life has practically revolved around the sport.



Chaney is the coach of the USL soccer team. By his second season, David had coached the team to the Gulf Coast Soccer Conference Championship and then helped the team into the semi-finals at regional competition in Houston, Texas, where they lost to Southwest Texas, which came out third in Nationals.

Besides coaching the USL team, Chaney is actively involved in the community. He is currently involved with coaching a U-18 girls select team, the Cajun Ice, the ESA high school boy's varsity team, and an adult team that he formed with the players from the university's team to keep them in shape during the off season.

However, Chaney was a player before he was a coach, and has been playing soccer since he was ten years old. He played recreational soccer before moving up to the select level with the Baton Rouge Jaguars. That was the beginning of some of the most enjoyable times of his life. He loved "traveling around with the guys; they were great." And travel they did, even as far as Europe, where they played against a professional club's practice team before going to the Aberdeen International Football Festival in Scotland. There, they made it to the semifinals but lost to Canada.

Chaney lettered in soccer for four years at Acadiana High School where the team made it to the state semi-finals. Then, he went to William Carey College, in Mississippi, where the team made it to nationals one year.

In college, Chaney had two ambitions. One was to play soccer at the college level, and the other was to open a store dedicated to just soccer. He said, "I was sick and tired of ordering through catalogs where I had to wait almost a whole season for them to come in, and half the time, they were the wrong size."

So, in 1995, Chaney opened his own store called "Chaney's Not Just Soccer."

In 1997, he had a shot at a "dream come true." Officials announced that a semi-professional indoor soccer team—the Lafayette SwampCats—was being created. Chaney remarked "when I was in High School, the only chances for someone to play professional was to be in the top five percent of players and to get on a team overseas in Europe."

Ten years after high school, he got his chance. The added bonus was that it was in his home town. Chaney is slightly older than the other players, but he feels that his "experience equates the age difference."

At first, he was unsure over whether or not to try out, but as he always told his teams, "give it a shot, you never know until you try. I guess I had to take my own medicine." He began running on his own, and working on his techniques and ball skills by practicing with the teams he coached. He was up to 4-5 miles a day, and going strong until he broke his finger and almost had to sit out the season. Luckily, he healed in time for training camp and was able to play for the Swampcats. Chaney looks forward to coaching at USL again next season.

M





# JAMES GARBER

Earning a degree from USL seems to be a tradition in the Garber family. But not just any degree. Chemical engineering is apparently in the family's blood. Dr. James D. Garber is one of Louisiana's native sons. A resident of Broussard, he said he thinks that serving as a role model is important.

Garber earned his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from USL and then went to Georgia Tech for his master's and Ph.D. in chemical engineering.

"So, you might say that I was able to come back home. My parents still live in Broussard. My brother is a chemical engineer from (a graduate of) this department. My son is a graduate of this department. And, my stepfather worked for this department for awhile when I first came down here," Garber said. He agrees that USL has been an important part of his family's tradition.

"My folks were involved in the old Billeaud sugar factory in Broussard. And, I'd hang around there and talk to some of the people. The process of getting solid sugar from cane juice, it was interesting," Garber said. A high-school teacher at St. Cecilia in Broussard helped spur his interest in chemistry, an interest that led him to USL and Georgia Tech.

After earning his doctorate, Garber worked with Union-Camp in Georgia, the world's largest paper mill at the time. "It was also the world's largest polluter. So, a lot of my job was in water pollution and air pollution. And, I got involved in some of their corrosion problems. That turned out to be my current area of expertise," Garber said.

In his position as assistant to the dean, Garber said that he is responsible for helping to work out the faculty work loads and schedules. "Sometimes you pick up things (courses) that you hadn't planned on," Garber said laughing. "But, we pride ourselves on keeping the faculty (in the classes). Our students never see grad-

uate students teaching, not in our engineering courses."

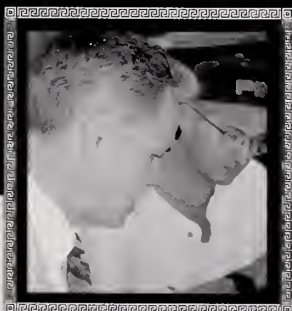
A significant part of Garber's work deals with grants to perform corrosion studies for state departments and private companies. "Right now, I have four grants. Two of them are oil companies. Then, I have a third grant with the state's department of transportation. Where we are trying to protect culverts, and keep from having to dig up the interstate," Garber said. The fourth grant deals with the protection of equipment.

Garber literally wrote the book on corrosion, as well as numerous articles for professional journals that also relate to corrosion. "It's a graduate text that I use called 'Advanced Corrosion Engineering.' I published it myself. In a graduate case, we actually give it to the students," Garber said. He explained that his book is still a work in progress, because he keeps adding to it.

His work has led him around the world. "I've been to Jakarta, Singapore, London, a lot of oilfield related areas," he said. But, teaching and helping his engineering students learn and even pay for school are critical factors in his career. "I set up a program where we give scholarships to all of our students who have a 3.0 average (or better). It's \$250 for (each of) the fall and spring semesters," Garber explained.

"I get calls quite often, I'd say twice a week, from municipalities, paper mills, sugar mills, refineries, from the oilfield. Just quick questions; can I use this metal in this (fluid). It's not always a quick answer, but it's a quick question," Garber laughed.

M





# IRVIN ESTERS

**I** believe teaching is the best way for me to affect the future," said 33-year-old Irvin Esters. "I know some of my students will do great things." Esters is an education professor at USL who plans on making a career in Lafayette.



"My wife Monica and two sons Erin, 10, and Zack, 7, and I want to stay here and get back to our roots. USL is a pioneer of universities, and I want to be apart of it," said Esters.

Esters is originally from Elton, Louisiana. He attended Elton High School and received a B.S. in education from McNeese State. He also earned a M.Ed. in counseling. Esters attended the University of Mississippi and earned his Ph.D. in counseling and educational psychology.

Esters believes that USL is a diverse university. "USL also has vision, leadership, and a good and exciting time." Currently Esters is an assistant professor of education (counselor education). His duties include teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in education and counseling, as well as the supervision of student teachers.

He has also taught at Lyon College, Welsh-Roanoke Junior High School, Sulphur High, and Hathaway High.

Esters also has high expectations when it comes to his students. "I expect dedication, effort, reflection, and the willingness to challenge status quo out of my students. I want to give my students the opportunity to excel and to take pride in a job well done. I want students to be able to ask good questions after they complete my class."

Student involvement is high on Ester's list, and it's an area in which he leads by example.

Esters has been involved in many programs and has also received several honors in his academic career. He was a residence hall director at McNeese state and was an honors fellow at The University of Mississippi. He has also been recognized by Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society, Sigma Xi Research Society, and was awarded the Outstanding Presentation in Social Science, for Excellence in Research at the Doctoral Level, and as a Wye Fellow, The Aspen Institute, 1996.

Esters has taught Educational Psychology, Introduction to Counseling, Internship/Seminar in Education, Child Development, Adolescent Development, Psychology of Personality, History and Systems of Psychology, Psychological Testing, Measurement and Assessment, and Introduction to Education.

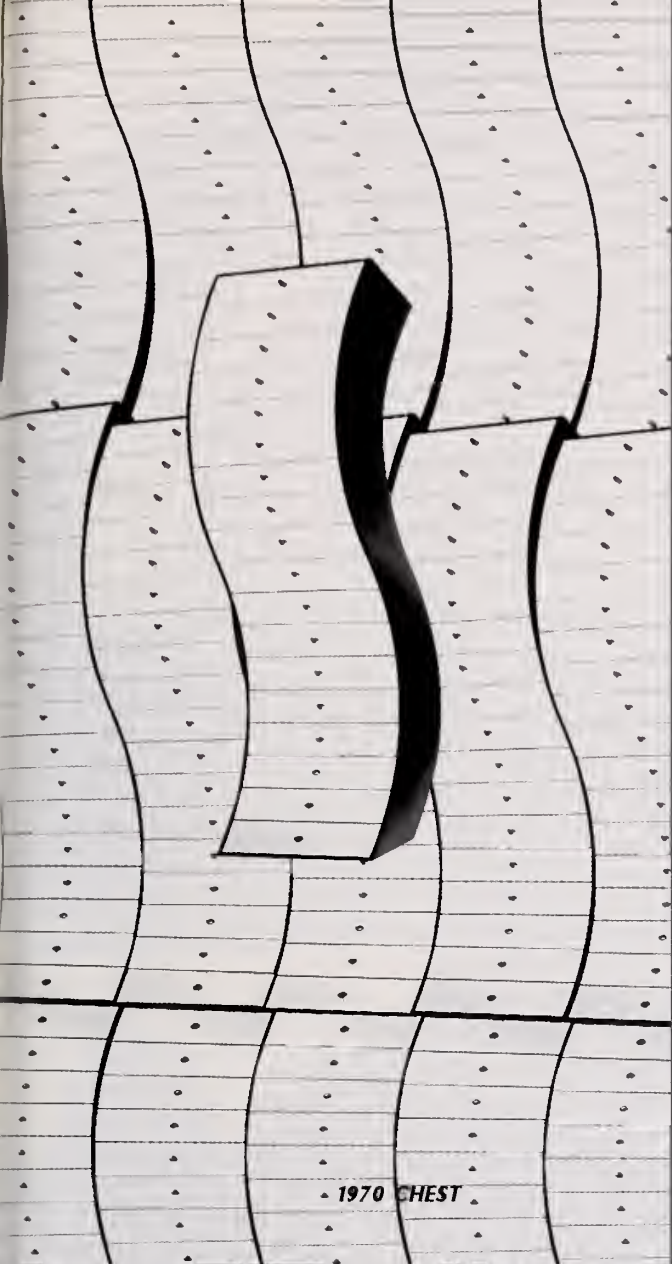
Along the way, he still finds time to be a loving husband, father, traveler, and teacher.

This summer Esters traveled to Italy. There, he took a group of 14 college graduates around Italy. "I love to travel and be outdoors," commend Esters, who enjoys hiking, scuba diving, rock climbing, family camping, basketball, and reading.

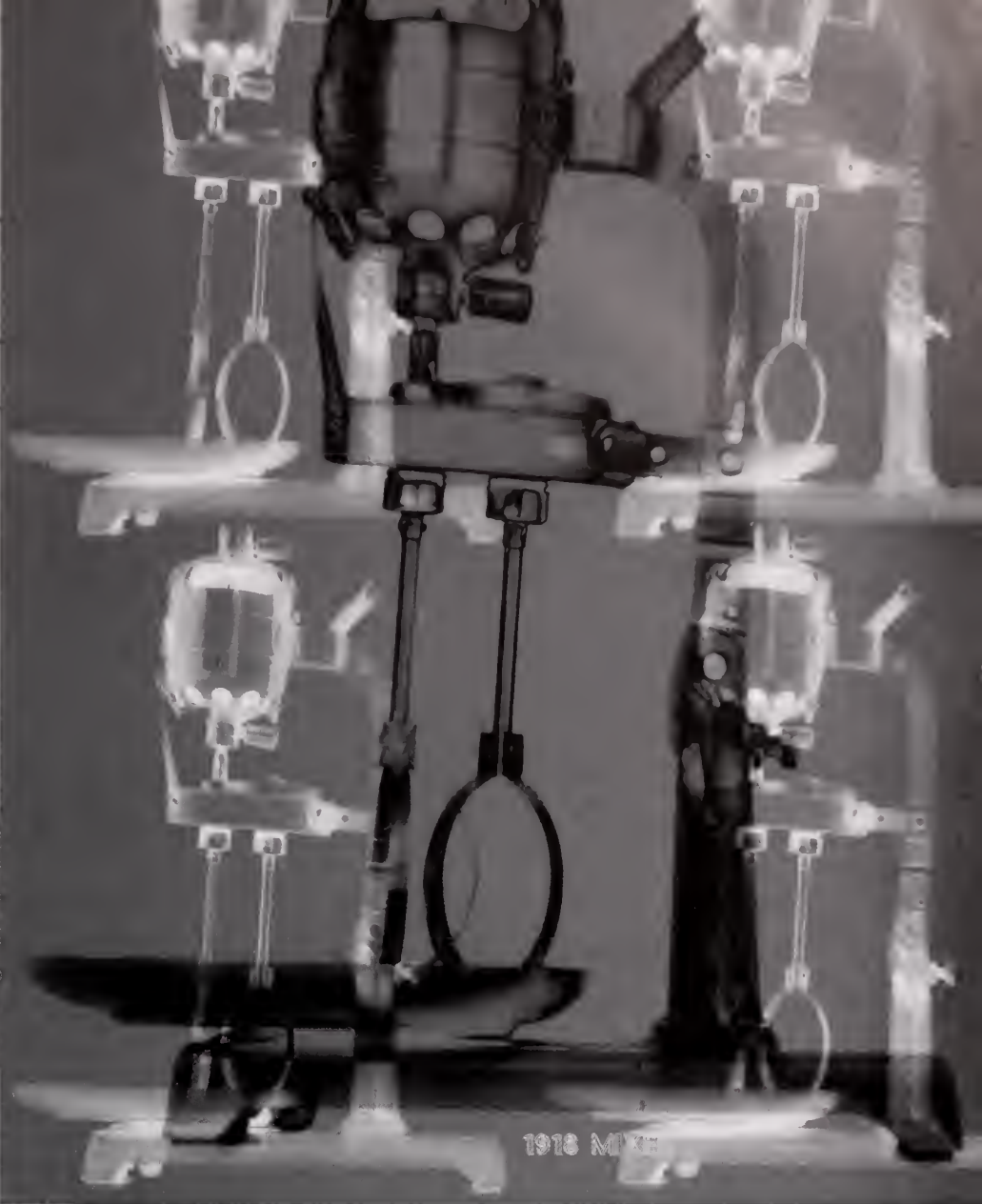
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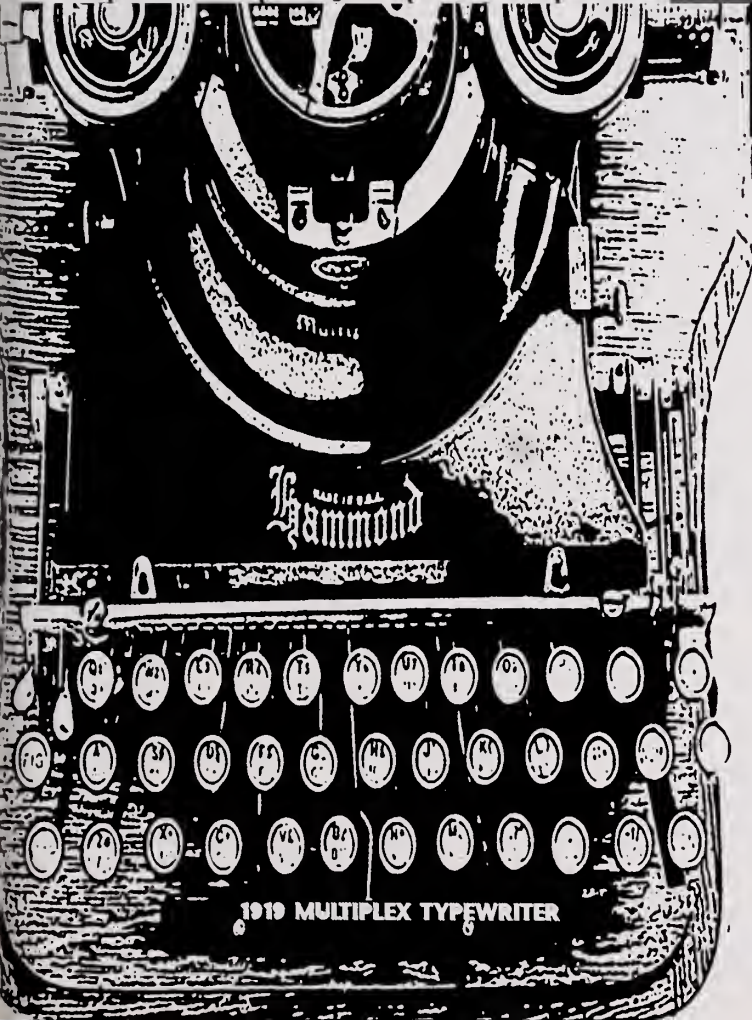




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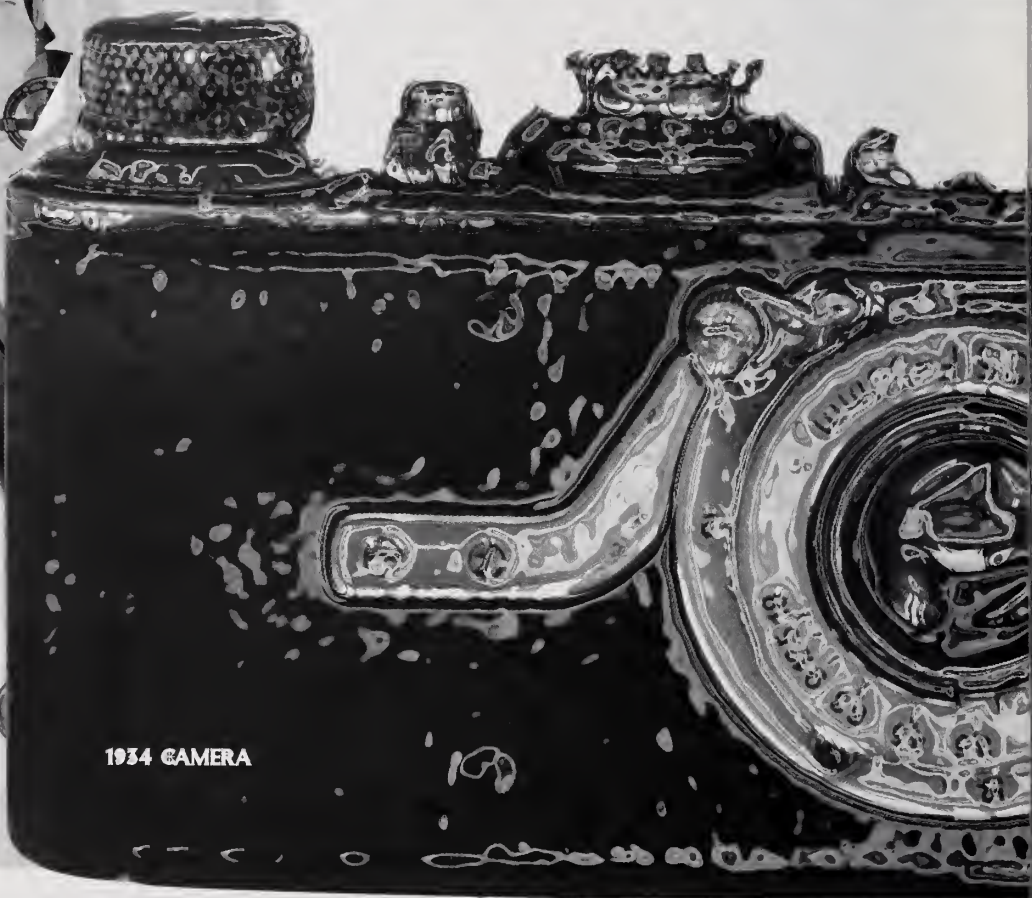
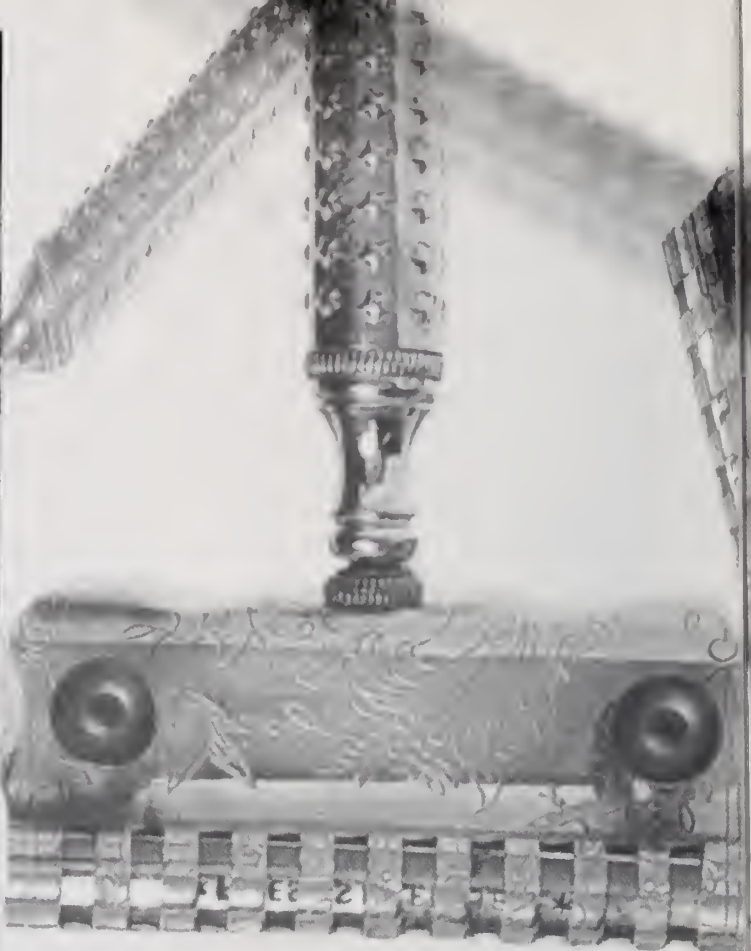
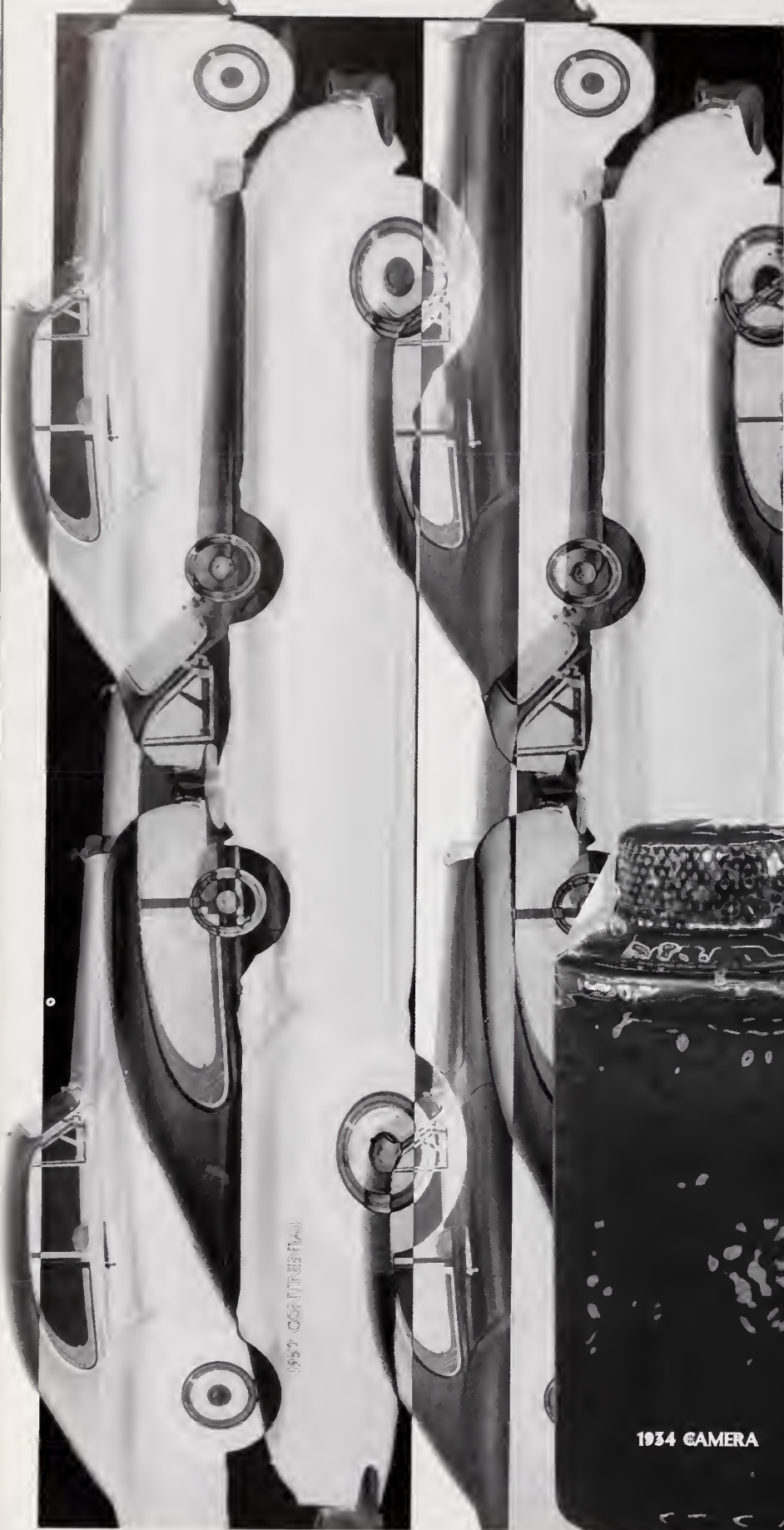
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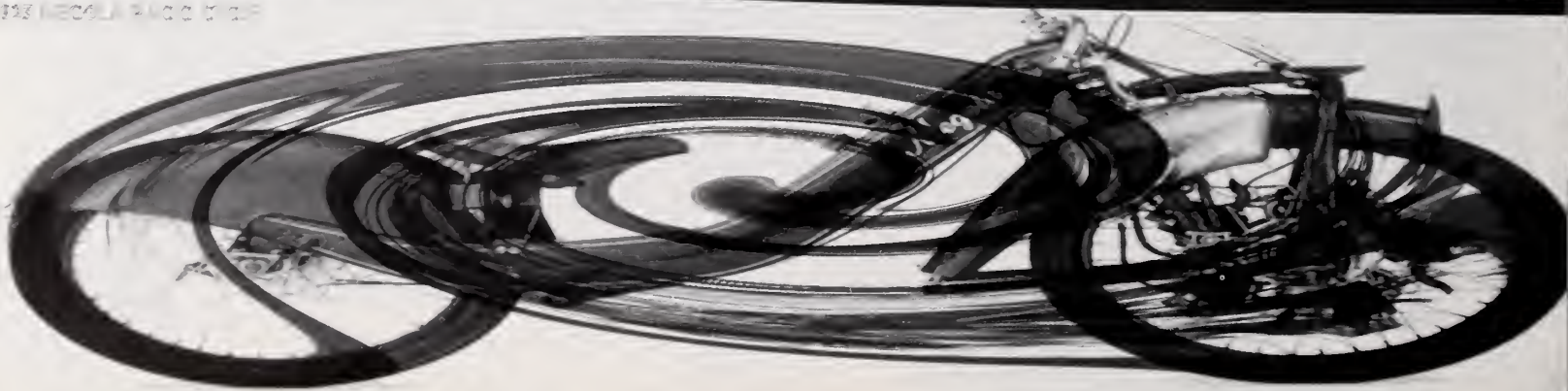


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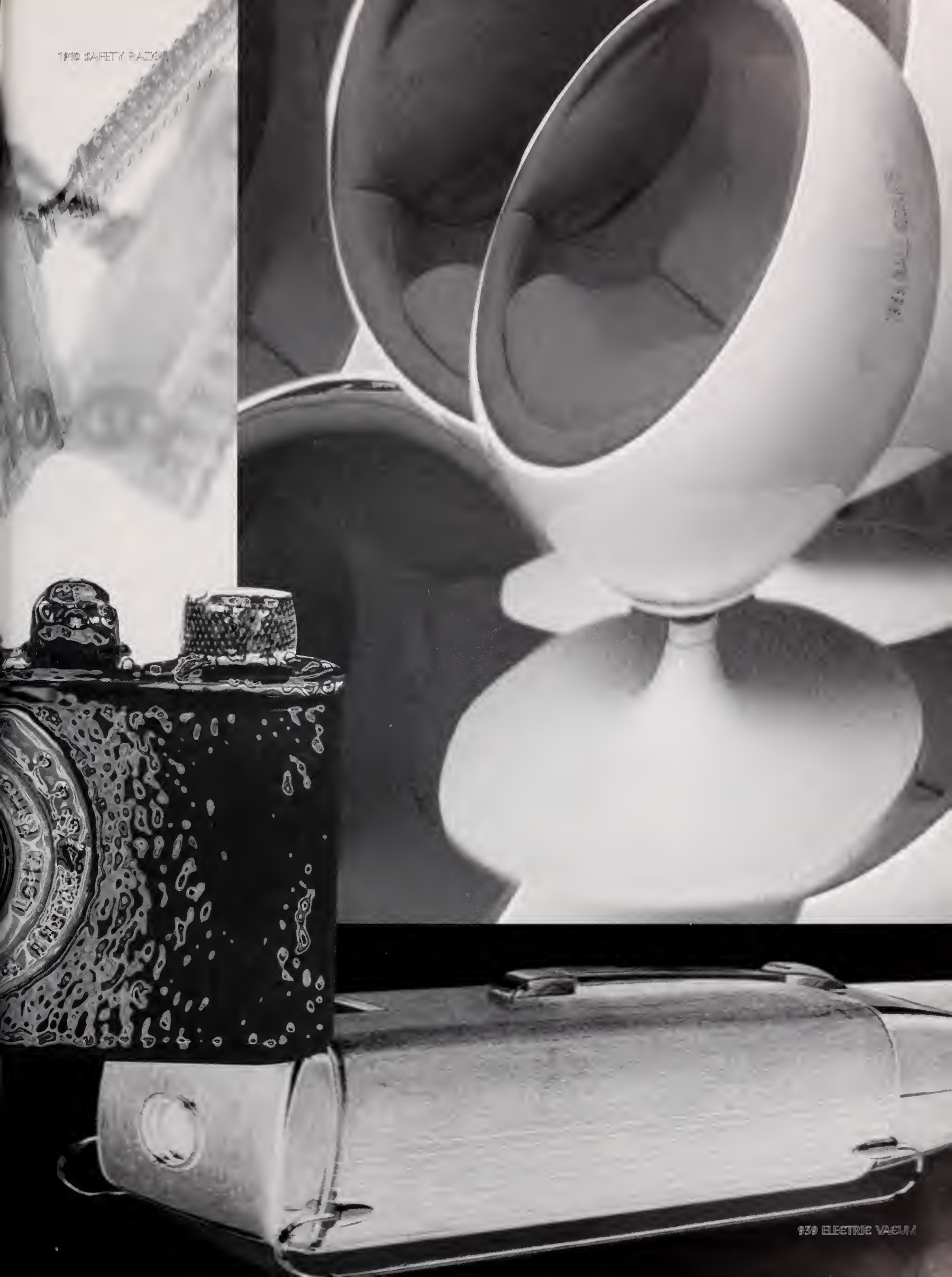


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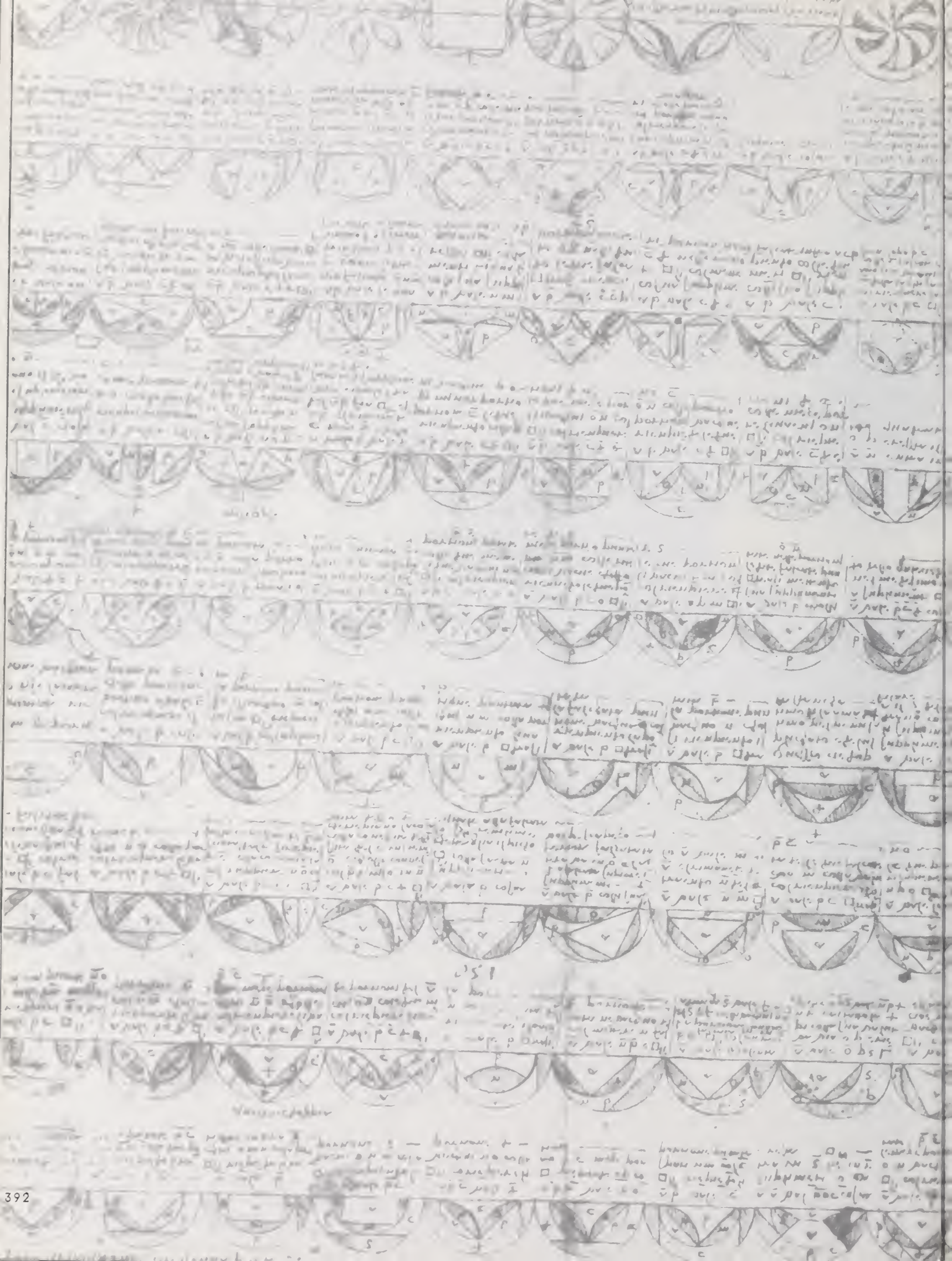


1910 SAFETY RAZOR



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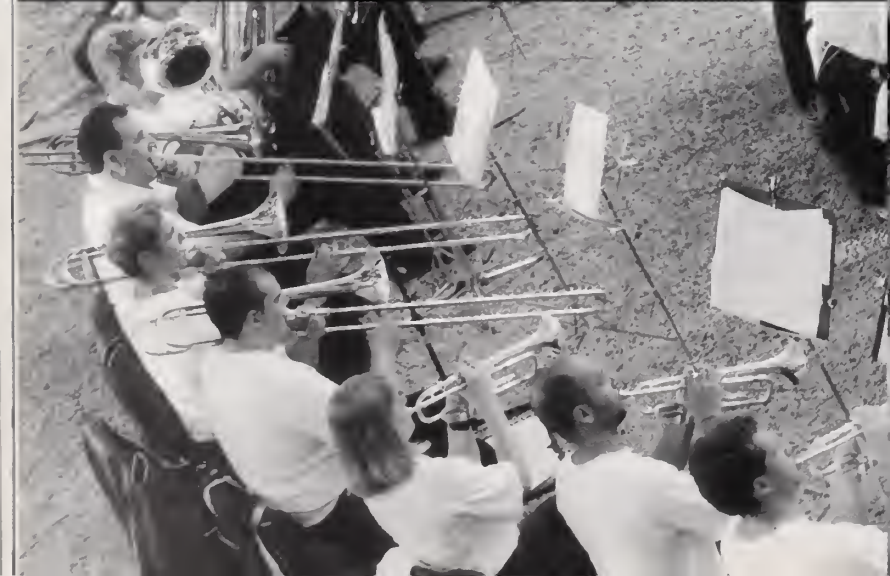
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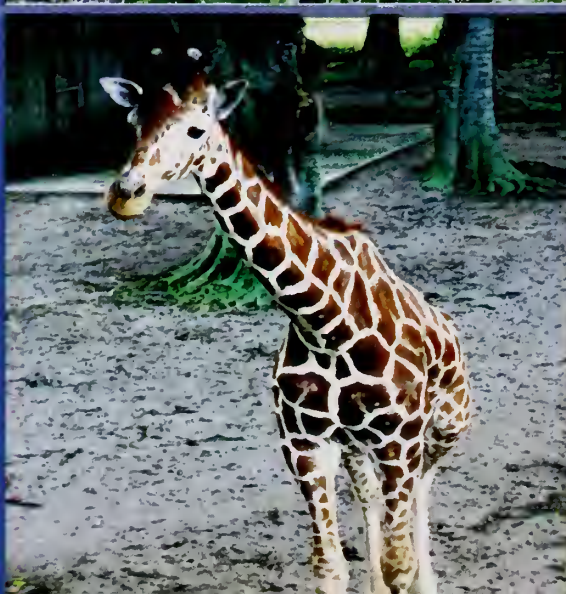
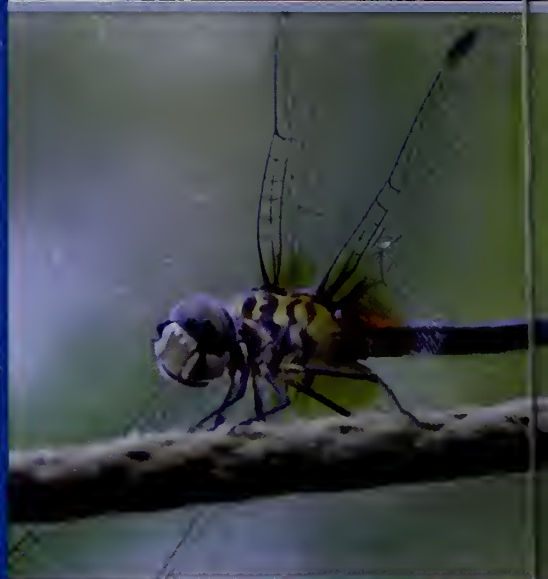
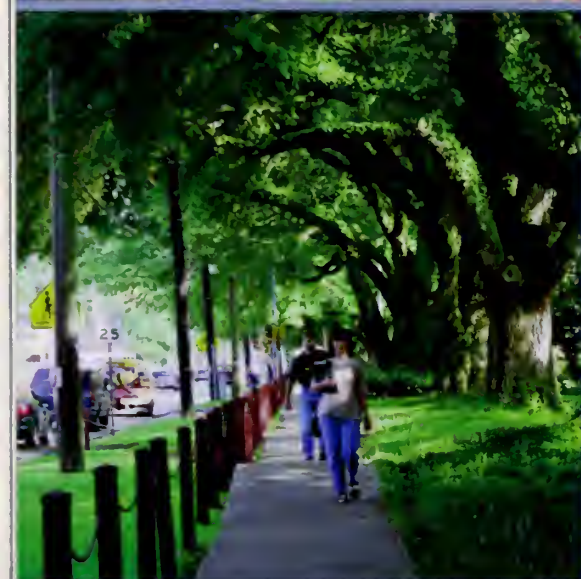




























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# Colophon : Finishing Touches

The *L'Acadien* Yearbook operates with the freedom of the press and protections of the First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

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National News and Music photos were contributed by RM Photo Service, Inc.

Sorority and fraternities group shots were either taken by staff photographers, turned in by members, or submitted by national composite picture companies.

Missing group or greek organizations shots did not make an appointment or did not turn in a photo after repeated requests.

Special thanks are in need for Lucien Gastineau, the *L'Acadien* Faculty Advisor, for his interest and hard work in our book. Also, thanks to the Taylor Sales Representatives, Mark David and Jeremy Broussard.

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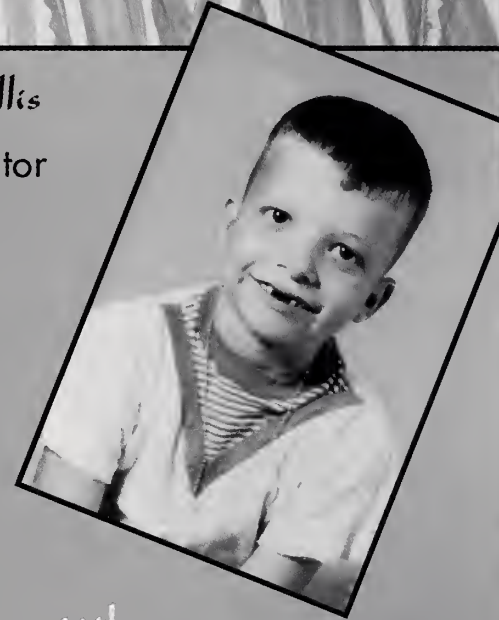
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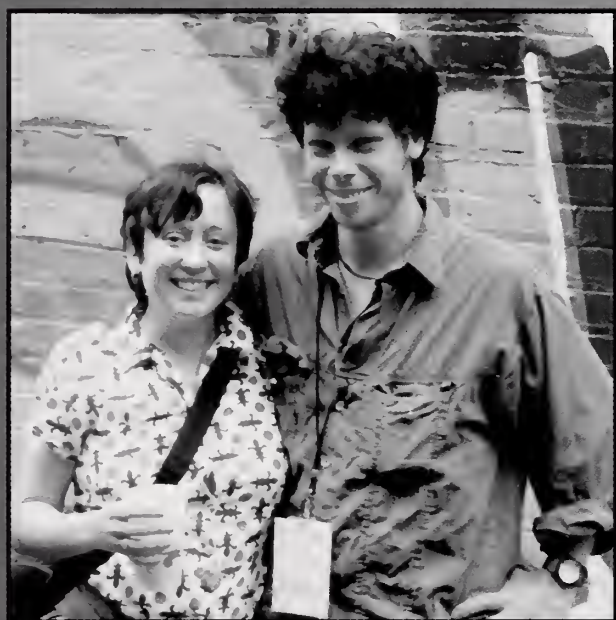




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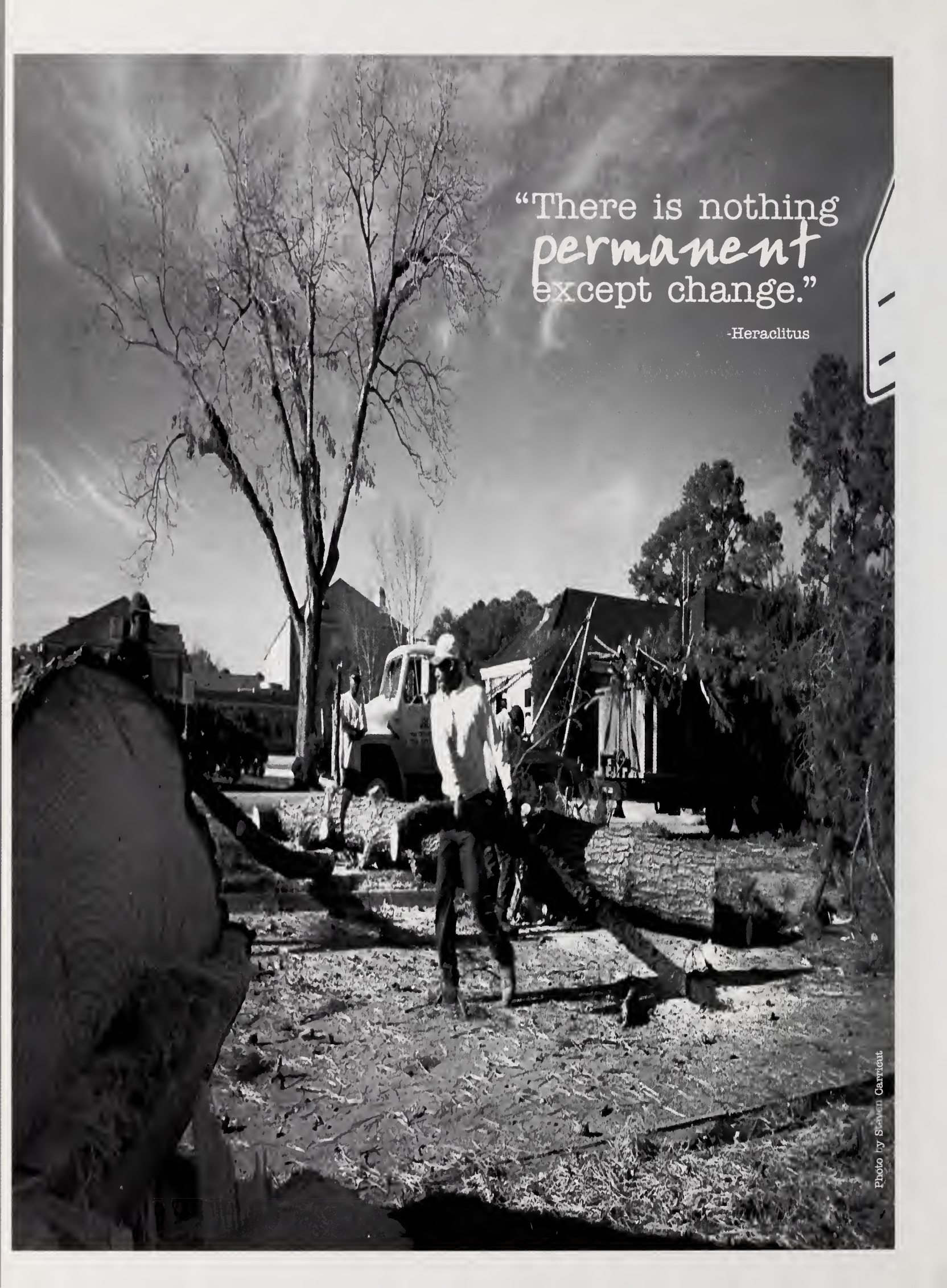
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“There is nothing  
*permanent*  
except change.”

-Heraclitus







